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THE RACING CALENDAR  
AND STUD-BOOK

C. M. PRIOR

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THE RACING CALENDAR  
AND STUD-BOOK.

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# The History

OF THE

# Racing Calendar and Stud-Book

From their inception in the Eighteenth Century,  
with Observations on some of the Occurrences  
noted therein.

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By C. M. PRIOR, B.A. Cantab.

(Author of *Early Records of the Thoroughbred Horse*).

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LONDON :  
THE "SPORTING LIFE,"  
27, ST. BRIDE STREET, E.C.4.

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1926.



## HISTORY OF THE STUD-BOOK.

THE history of the thoroughbred horse is so inseparably connected with the *General Stud-Book*, that it can scarcely fail to be of interest to trace the inception and growth of this work during the hundred and thirty-five years of its existence. The eighteenth century was well-nigh spent before breeders were provided with a simple and comprehensive method of preserving records of their studs, and henceforth private entries in a pocket book were to be supplanted by a uniform mode of entry which will ever be associated with the name of Mr. James Weatherby, the original inventor of the system.

The very earliest allusion to a stud-book that we have been able to discover is contained in a volume setting forth the directions for "The Order and Governmente of a Nobleman's House,"<sup>1</sup> as observed in 1605. "The Officer of the Gentlemen of the Horse" is enjoined to "keepe a note in a booke when "everie mare is covereded, and with what horsse," so the necessity of maintaining such records was early recognised.

The publication of an annual *Racing Calendar*, begun in 1727 by John Cheny, no doubt was an important step in the right direction, and gave encouragement to owners to adopt more permanent methods of entry: and we know that about this period some of the principal north-country breeders were in the habit of keeping private stud-books of their thoroughbred stock for their own information and convenience.

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1. A Breviate, communicated by the Right Hon. Sir Joseph Banks, Bart., *Archæologia*, vol. 13, p. 326.



Three of these original MSS. stud-books, namely, those of the Dukes of Newcastle and Ancaster, and Mr. Cuthbert Routh, have recently been reproduced<sup>1</sup>, and attest the care and minuteness with which they were compiled. In all three books not only are the dates of birth of the foals entered, but their precise markings, shewing even at that distant date it was appreciated that such particulars were of importance.

Of course, studs of considerable magnitude had long been maintained in this country, and the Public Records testify that when Cromwell sent his four Commissioners down to Tutbury, in Staffordshire, in July, 1643, to make an inventory of the Royal Stud which was then kept there, and which he had appropriated, it was found to consist of a hundred and thirty-nine animals.<sup>2</sup>

Had any regular stud-book then been available, the Commissioners would have been spared their four days' labour of compiling a catalogue of the stud (or "race," as the term then was), and, moreover, the information would have been handed down to us in a far more complete form than they were able to obtain it. No pedigrees of the animals further than their sires were given; but doubtless Gregory Julian, "the Yeoman of the Race" (or Studmaster), was not likely to have afforded the Commissioners more assistance than he was obliged, and resented their intrusion on his province.

After the accession of George III. in 1760, when the number of race meetings throughout the country had so greatly increased, the need of a stud-book to preserve the breeding and identity of racehorses became every day more apparent. The early attempts to checkmate fraudulent entries, and malpractices, were cumbrous and inconvenient in the extreme, and would have been impossible, had not the great bulk of the runners been drawn from the immediate neighbourhood of the races, as the high road was the only means of transit.

It was a common condition that at the time of entry the

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1. *Early Records of the Thoroughbred Horse* (1924).

2. Hore's *History of Newmarket*, vol. ii., page 162.

horses had to be produced for the purpose of verification at some inn, or other appointed place, for races to be run some days, or even weeks, later. For example, in the *London Gazette* of August 4th, 1684, the conditions of the then important meeting near Aylesbury, which extended over three days, were thus advertised :—

“ A PLATE, to be run for in Quainton Meadow, near Aylesbury, in Bucks, the day before the last Thursday in August, which will be worth near £40. The weight 12 Stone ; every Horse, Mare, or Gelding that run for this plate must be shewed, and have his Name Entered at the George Inn in Aylesbury, between the hours of 3 and 5 in the afternoon on Thursday before the first Thursday in August, otherwise shall not be permitted to run.”

Even for the St. Leger at Doncaster, horses entered had to be produced at the Green House at a fixed date some considerable time before the races, and this practice was not discontinued there till 1788, when its obvious disadvantages could no longer be tolerated.

The first public suggestion of a stud-book for breeders of which we are aware is to be found in *Heber's Racing Calendar* for 1756 and following years, in which he prints a pattern page, as shewn, for the guidance of those desirous to compile one, but his specimen form was not published by Tuting and Fawconer, Walker, or Weatherby, in their various calendars which succeeded Heber's after his death in 1768, and to which they formed a continuation.

But though it was thus recommended that breeders for their own purposes should put in writing the birth, colour, markings, and particulars of their foals, it had never occurred to anyone that such records should be collected together to form a regular stud-book for the mutual advantage of everyone connected with the Turf, and the breeding of racing stock. Indeed, the pattern, though admirable in its way for private use, would have been too bulky in form for a universal register, even for the comparatively small number of mares then at the stud.

A PATTERN FOR A STUDBOOK.<sup>1</sup>

| Year. | Month and day, when the mare was covered. | By what stallion, with the pedigree thereof.                                                                                                   | The dam, with her pedigree.                                                                                                                        | When foaled. | Colt or filly, with marks and colour.                                       | To whom sold, and what for. | Remarks.                            |
|-------|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1756. | May 1.                                    | Regulus, 16 years old, was got by the Godolphin Arabian, his dam was called Grey Robinson, which was got by the Bald Galloway, etc.            | A Bay Mare rising 4 years old, 14 hands 3 inches high, got by Snip, her dam by Crab, etc.                                                          | April 3.     | Bay Colt with a star, snip, and the off foot behind only white.             | Tho. Stevens, Esq. £150.    | Large, strong, and bony, etc., etc. |
| 1756. | April 10.                                 | Tartar, 13 years old, was bred by Edw. Leeds, Esq., got by Partner, his dam was Meliore, got by Fox, his grand-dam was Whitty's Milkmaid, etc. | A Grey Mare, 6 years old, bred by the late Mr. Routh, of Yorkshire, 15 hands high, she was got by Devonshire Childers, her dam by Bay Bolton, etc. | March 20.    | Black Colt, the 2 hind feet white, and the off fore foot, with a star only. | Mr. Wm. Trueman. £75.       | Strong, but not large.              |

1. Heber's *Calendar*, vol. vi. (1756), p. xxiv..

One may remark, *en passant*, that in the above specimen page, the ages of the stallions are reckoned from May-day, in accordance with the custom then prevailing, thus making them appear to be a year younger than they actually were ; and further that the heights of the typical mares named, 14.3 and 15 hands, show that they were doubtless the average of brood mares at that date, thus confirming Admiral Rous' opinion, expressed in 1860, that the size of the thoroughbred horse had increased about a hand in the past century.

Despite the obvious demand, no progress seems to have been made in the direction of a stud-book till 1786, when the indefatigable turf historian William Pick, who lived appropriately enough in York, the county which had always been most celebrated for producing the race-horse, published the first edition of his *Authentic Historical Racing Calendar*,<sup>1</sup> giving records of all the races run for at York, and other principal meetings in that shire only, from 1709 to 1785.

The work also contained the pedigrees and performances of all the most celebrated racehorses and many of the imported Eastern stallions ; a complete list of subscribers to the York Assembly Rooms in each race week from 1752 to 1777, and " an account of the Earls of March and Eglington's Carriage Match, of Mr. Shafto's Time-Match, of Mr. Thornhill's Road-Match, of Mr. Woodcock riding 2,900 miles, the late Sir C. Turner's Leaping Match, Fox Chaces, etc."

Unlike the proprietors of the rival racing calendars, Pick printed a facsimile of Heber's specimen page for a stud-book as if it were his own idea, without acknowledgment, merely altering the names of the stallions and mares to suit his later period ; so evidently no better or more convenient form of entry had been evolved since Heber's pattern of thirty years earlier, though racing matters meanwhile had been progressing apace, and were fast leaving behind the primitive conditions that had prevailed previously.

Pick's histories, when one considers the difficulties with which he was beset, as also the fact of there being few

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1. Pages 268-270.

earlier workers in the same field, for him to profit by their labours, and that he had only the records of Races Past to assist him, is a monument of industry, and deserving of every commendation. Apart from his researches we should know but little of the horses that made the English Turf, and his pages faithfully retail the performances of most of the old-time celebrities, freely interspersed with anecdote.

In addition to an annual *Racing Calendar*, which Pick issued first in 1786, he published, in 1803 and 1805, further volumes of his *Turf Register*, bringing his records down to horses foaled in 1772, and it is to be deplored that he did not live to complete his task, and issue the promised final volume which would have brought his history up to date. In his first *Register*, Pick only concerned himself with such animals as had distinguished themselves on the racecourse, and made no attempt to account for the produce of racing mares generally, or give any particulars of their careers at the stud, and, indeed, his work was much more of a racing record than a stud-book, though serving a useful dual purpose for the time being.

In 1791, five years after the first edition of Pick's book, the continued demand for a stud-book at last brought forth both the work, and the man to compile it, in the person of Mr. Weatherby, the Keeper of the Match Book at Newmarket, and the proprietor of the only surviving *Racing Calendar*. The earliest announcement of this publication will be found in the *Calendar* for 1790, where it was advertised that Mr. James Weatherby had in the Press,

An Introduction to a General Stud-book, containing with very few exceptions the pedigree of every horse, mare, etc., of note that has appeared on the Turf for the last fifty years, and many of an earlier date, arranged in a peculiar manner.

It does not appear that Mr. Weatherby had made any public appeal to breeders to assist him in his undertaking, and his chief sources of information were Cheny and Heber's Calendars of Races Past from 1727, Pick's histories, old sale catalogues, and the result of his own private inquiries.



In his preface Mr. Weatherby observed :—

It may appear particular to the discerning Reader, that very few Mares are mentioned in the List, who produced before the year 1760 ; and it seemed equally strange to the Editor that of all the Stud Books he has had the opportunity of seeing, none were of an older date than 1764 : But this difficulty has been clearly explained by an experienced Sportsman, who observes, that “ at the time William Duke of Cumberland came to Newmarket [about 1753] the Turf was at a very low ebb, there being very few Breeders, except two or three in the North ; and the few Noblemen and Gentlemen who did keep Horses, keeping them not from any pleasure or love of the sport, but merely from state, or because their fathers did so before them.”

One might be excused in thinking that a casual reference to the volumes of Races Past from 1727 to 1760 might have convinced Mr. Weatherby that the “ experienced sportsman ” had entirely misled him, in his views on the turf, leaving an impression that both the race of thoroughbred horses and breeders had virtually become extinct in 1753. As this very year there were one hundred and twelve race meetings held in thirty-three counties in England alone, it is quite evident the sport was anything but at “ a very low ebb,” and it seems incredible that Mr. Weatherby could have given authority to such a statement.

As the early history of the racehorse is of the greatest interest, it is unfortunate that he did not make more serious efforts to extract further information from the owners of the famous studs of the day, instead of being content to date his book from about 1750, leaving to those who were to revise his first volume, exactly a hundred years later, the task of tracing back the pedigrees to their foundation, which passage of time had now made a matter of the greatest difficulty, and they are to be greatly congratulated on the success of their investigations.

The recent publication of some MSS. stud-books<sup>1</sup> of this early period shews that such information might have been readily obtained by Mr. Weatherby, and it is satisfactory

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1. *Early Records of the Thoroughbred Horse* (1924).



to find that, in such documents as have been discovered, the accuracy of the Editors has, for the most part, been strikingly corroborated.

Mr. Weatherby announced in his preface that "a gentleman of Staffordshire" a few years previously had begun to compile a very extensive stud-book, and deplored that he had not lived to complete his work. He did not actually say, however, if this book had been placed at his disposal, but from the context it evidently had been, and one regrets that he withheld the name of the author, and that due credit was not given to him for his labours.

Neither did Mr. Weatherby allow that he was under any obligation to Cheny, the compiler of the original *Racing Calendar* in 1727, but appropriated, without one word of acknowledgment, all the particulars as to the pedigrees of racehorses of the first half of the century, which Cheny had diligently collected and published since the commencement of his work, and which were the fount from whence all future historians drew their supplies.

Indeed, the only mention made of Cheny's name will be found in Mr. Weatherby's preface to his volume of 1791, where he casually remarked that Cheny was in error in stating that Lord Leigh's Diana and Charming Molly were daughters of the Godolphin Whitefoot, "whereas they were in reality got "by Second."

As a matter of fact, Cheny merely confused these mares with two others of identical names, the property of Lord Chedworth, and the correction might well have been made in more handsome terms, as Mr. Weatherby had so freely made use of all the information Cheny had amassed in his *Calendars*.

A perusal of his twenty-four volumes shows that Cheny had laboured long and industriously in his researches as to the back breeding of the racehorses of his day in the interests of breeders. In his first *Calendar* of 1727 he stated that "two "or three noblemen, and very many gentlemen, have been "pleased to think proper that I should print the pedigrees

## CHENY'S COLLECTION OF PEDIGREES.

"of the horses," and he announced his intention of regularly doing so as regards the runners for any of the more important races, and "of such other young horses as make a considerable figure."

Five years later he promised to amplify these details, and in 1743, in his index of the runners, he gave at great length the pedigrees and history of many of the most celebrated horses, with a great deal of miscellaneous details about them. But for the fact that Chény's *Calendar* (1727-50) has become extremely scarce, his efforts would receive more credit at the present day than is accorded them.

Thus Chény's researches, together with all the store of information contained in *Pick's Register*, published five years earlier, were drawn on by Mr. James Weatherby, and were incorporated with much original additional matter in his *Introduction to a General Stud-Book*. But for their united labours, he would have found it impossible to trace many of the pedigrees so far as he did, as they would have inevitably been lost meantime had they not been preserved in print.

This introductory volume contained the pedigrees and stud records of some three hundred and eighty-seven mares which Mr. Weatherby considered were of pure racing blood, and it says much for the skill of the original inventor of this perfectly novel stud-book, that both in title and plan it remains to-day precisely on its earliest lines, and has been the model from which every other stud-book has been copied throughout the world.

The "peculiar plan" on which its originator laid so much stress, had for its chief merit its very simplicity, which has indeed caused its permanence, and though one hundred and thirty odd years have passed, no improvement, save in minor details, has been discovered. Mr. Weatherby's "plan" was merely to obtain as complete a list of mares then at the stud as he was able, append a short pedigree of them for their identification, and then underneath their names, account for their produce, or failure, each year they were at the stud, in the manner with

which we are now so familiar, but which apparently had never occurred to anyone to adopt, and certainly none of the old stud-books we have seen are on this pattern.

This plan at once commended itself, as it was evident that in course of time every blood animal, provided that breeders entered the produce of their mares, would be duly registered, and thus a complete General Stud-book would be formed.

Hitherto such records in *Pick's Registers* had been encumbered with racing performances of each horse; for the future the *Racing Calendar* was left to supply all such information, and the *Stud-Book* only dealt with the produce and ages of the horses entered. In one respect alone had Heber's pattern page an advantage over the new plan, inasmuch as the latter did not record the markings of the foals, merely giving their sex and colour.

Useful as this information would undoubtedly have been, affording a salutary check on substitution and fraud, though frequently advocated, it has never been found practicable to supply it, on account of making the volumes too unwieldy in size; but though it may not be feasible to record the markings of foals in the *Stud-book* itself, the Jockey Club might reasonably insist on their being furnished by the breeder at the time of entry, and registered in their office, as a ready means of verification in cases of disputed identity, or for inclusion in export certificates for the benefit of foreign purchasers of bloodstock. It is well known that breeders of certain pedigree cattle have to lodge a diagram shewing the markings of their calves, and, in the recent notorious turf frauds, such an evidence of identity would have been invaluable. It may be of interest to state that Mr. Cuthbert Routh, in his MSS. stud-book, drew the outline of a foal, in order to indicate its markings, so long ago as 1732.

This Introduction contained a Preface of some considerable length, which in itself is such an interesting compilation, forming as it does a little history of the origin of the work, and of the hindrances which beset the first compiler, that it seems

an unaccountable omission that it was not reprinted in all the subsequent issues of Volume I., and most certainly would have been very acceptable had it been reproduced in the revised edition of the first volume published in 1891.

In his Preface the Editor states that :

To rescue the Turf from the encreasing evil of false and inaccurate pedigrees, has long been the wish of its most noble and zealous supporters.

But the attendant difficulties of collecting well-authenticated pedigrees to that end had hitherto been found well-nigh insurmountable.

A work of this kind is a much more difficult task than anyone not so employed himself can possibly imagine. With regard to the authenticity of the pedigrees, nothing is here inserted for which there is not some authority ; as little as possible is hazarded on uncertainty, and nothing upon conjecture.

Thus accuracy, so far as it was possible to secure it, was ever the chief aim of the original compiler, and this feature has been maintained by each succeeding editor down to the current volume, exciting the admiration and respect, not merely of home breeders, but of those in all parts of the world interested in this unique history of the thoroughbred horse ; its details being invariably accepted without question or doubt.

It is indeed fortunate that the different editors responsible for its production should have been actuated by the same desire, which in so marked a degree distinguished the original author. Mistakes are inseparable from a work of this nature, but they are few and far between, and as a general rule, when the accuracy of an entry has been questioned, the *Stud Book*, on investigation, has been upheld.

In the revised edition of Vol. I., page 184, for example, Messrs. Weatherby draw attention to a discrepancy between the pedigree of the Skim mare as given by them, and that in her owner, Mr. Vernon's private stud-book. But there is little reason to doubt that the trained hand of the original editor is correct, and this is confirmed, in our mind, by

having had the advantage of comparing the entry with Mr. George Baker's contemporaneous annotated stud-book, which here shews no alteration or correction, and he certainly himself owned one of the produce of Expectation, a daughter of this very mare.

As Mr. Baker was an acknowledged student of pedigrees, and kept his interleaved copy of the stud-book written up-to-date, it is fairly certain that he would have corrected an error of this kind had it existed. His name will be found amongst the original list of subscribers to the first volume, and he was one of the principal owners of racehorses in the North of England at that time.

As regards the difficulty, one might almost say the impossibility, of obtaining authentic information from breeders, who have trusted to their memory, rather than to written memoranda, only those who have attempted similar work can appraise at their full value the obstacles which confronted the compiler of the first *Stud-book*. Even in these days, Messrs Weatherby could doubtless tell of the labour of extracting the desired particulars from certain owners of horses. What must it have been, then, half a century before the penny post was thought of, and when writing a letter was almost an event ?

Not long ago a noble Earl, presiding over a military tribunal, remarked that numbers of people did not even know their own ages, unless they could refresh their memory by reference to human stud-books, as he styled the volumes of Burke and Debrett. Small wonder, then, that such details as the matings of mares, and birth of foals, perhaps many years back, should require much verification before being accepted as correct.

At this distance of time it is not easy to discover what were the precise conditions which, in Mr. Weatherby's mind, rendered an animal eligible or otherwise for entry is his *Stud Book*. An examination of the first two editions of Volume I. clearly shows that as a general rule he only accepted those tracing back to one of certain original mares, beyond



which it was impossible to go, and which in these latter days we are accustomed to term "tap-roots," and even then were recognised as foundation stock. They were not very many in number, certainly considerably under a hundred, and at the present day have dwindled down, for all practical purposes, to about a third of that number, or even less.

Those who have not attentively studied tables of descent in racehorses will be surprised to find what a small number of individuals are concerned with the present breed of the thoroughbred, and how intensely inbred he has become since (and probably before) the days of the Byerley Turk, imported in 1689, and his two great fellow progenitors, the Darley Arabian, imported 1706, and the Godolphin Barb, imported 1730. That the result of such long-continued inbreeding has not been deleterious, the present excellence of the racehorse affords abundant testimony.

It is difficult to ascertain with any degree of certainty the date at which the first Barb or Arabian stallions were introduced into England. References are made to them in various historical works from a very early date, but by the time of the accession of James I. (1603) it was well known that the cross with the Barb was the most direct route to the winning post, and from thenceforth stallions from the East were regularly brought to this country with a view to imparting additional speed to our native stock.

The many volumes issued in recent years by the Historical Manuscripts Commission, have added materially to our knowledge of the early history of the turf. Frequent references are made in them to the importation of Eastern stallions, and apparently almost every landowner of importance who went abroad thought it incumbent on him to return with an Arabian horse. For example, A. Deleto, writing to the Earl of Rutland<sup>1</sup> from Orleans, under date December 1, 1609, says:—

"My Lord of Cranbourne is returned. . . . He bought at Marseilles one Barbarye horse, and Sir Thomas Howard too, and Sir Johan

1. Duke of Rutland MSS., vol. i., p. 421.

\* 1704, according to Royal Society of 1704 + 1705  
by P. B.



Sheffildd bought asnother which is beather then eny of the outhor ; but as I heare he payed well for hime, for it cost Sir Johan Sheffildd before he had hime braught to Paris on hundred and fortie pound."

Further, the first Duke of Newcastle of that creation (1592 to 1676), William Cavendish, of Welbeck Abbey, in an oft-quoted passage from his great work on Horsemanship, published in 1658, after detailing the kind of mares most suitable to produce racehorses, goes on to say :—

" Your stallion by any means, must be a *Barb*, and somewhat of the *Shape* I have Described the *mares* to be of : For a *Barb* that is a *Jade* will Get a better *Running Horse* than the best Running Horse in *England*. . . . Therefore I Advise you to the *Barb*, which I believe is the Better Horse to *Breed Running Horses*."

In fact, a stallion would not have ranked as likely to get racing stock, unless he was either a *Barb* himself, or got by one. From a letter written by Lord Godolphin to (John) Lord Lonsdale,<sup>1</sup> and preserved at Lowther Castle, we read :—

[1699.]

" I have been told that your Lordship has bred for some time of a stallion that wee in the South have in very slender esteem, and I have at this time a horse called Honeycom Punch that I hope would bee very proper for your use. He is a perfect good horse, and of a competent speed, gott by a *Barb*, and extreamly well shaped and very well limbed ; if hee bee acceptable to your Lordship it would bee a great pleasure to mee that you should make use of him."

This well-known stallion was foaled in about 1692, and was by the Taffolet (or Morocco) *Barb*, and as the property of Sir George Warburton had won a Match of £300, over four miles, at Newmarket, in April, 1699.

It is therefore plain that long before the Restoration (1660), the value of the Eastern cross was thoroughly appreciated, and for a century and a half stallions of this breed came over in a continuous stream, those named in the *General Stud-Book* only representing a fraction of the importations.

Notwithstanding, the fact remains that the Darley Arabian, the Godolphin *Barb*, and the Byerley Turk, alone survive in

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1. Earl of Lonsdale MSS., p. 106.

the male line, and are, of course, the direct ancestors, in tail male, of Eclipse, Herod, and Matchem respectively.

These three Eastern horses were apparently not superior to many other of the foreign stallions brought to this country by men of great wealth, who would undoubtedly have acquired the best horses obtainable, and only the mysterious law of the "survival of the fittest" can account for the extraordinary position they hold in the history of the evolution of the race-horse, and the absolute disappearance of their contemporaries, who have died out in the male line.

Singularly enough, nothing whatever is known of the pedigree of any of these three phenomenal stallions. It is true that Mr. Darley, when sending his Arabian home in 1706, said he was four years old, and "of the most esteemed race among the Arabs, both by sire and dam," but gave no further particulars. Mr. Blunt considered, though we do not know on what grounds, that he was "perhaps the only thoroughbred Anazah horse in the stud-book, being a Kehilan." We do know, however, that he came from Aleppo, from whence, there can be little doubt, were derived those mares imported by Charles II. through Lord Winchilsea,<sup>1</sup> his Ambassador at the Levant, which have had such an extraordinary influence on our breed, it being the place where the highest class Arabian horses were found. Of the remaining two stallions, the Byerley Turk was probably taken as a spoil of war, and may have been equally well-bred, but nothing authentic is to be found of the early history of the Godolphin, though the same remark may well apply to him.

The more attentively these old pedigrees are examined, the more it is demonstrated that in the first period covered by the *General Stud-Book*, and earlier, our racehorses tended to be very nearly of pure Eastern blood, almost without exception on the sire's side, and often very nearly so, and frequently quite, on that of the dam. The direct use of this blood, which has left an indelible mark on our existing racing stock, only lasted about a hundred years, say, till

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1. Finch MSS., vol. i., pp. 266 and 458.

about 1770, then fell with sudden abruptness into disrepute, and as regards the production of the racehorse, was almost discredited before the century had closed.

Up to the issues of 1800 inclusive, wherever possible, each mare in the *Stud-Book* was furnished with a pedigree which plainly indicated to anyone with an elementary knowledge of bloodstock the original "tap-root" from which she was descended, and comparatively few of the entries in the volume of 1793 failed to comply with this rule.

Of the exceptions, several were ultimately traced down to their original dam, in course of years, by reference to old private memoranda and other sources, and have been duly amplified in the revised edition of Vol. I. (1891) to which reference will be made hereafter, while others were expunged after further investigation, as being of impure origin. No conditions of entry were ever announced till the issue of Vol. XIX., but remained entirely at the discretion of the various editors.

But though it is perfectly clear that Mr. Weatherby had, even in those early days, made up his mind as to which mares to accept, and which to refuse, a very few gained entry on the most slender grounds of recognition, or it might almost be said on no grounds at all, save perhaps their outward appearance, which was admitted to be the only justification in the case of the mare entered as Lavinia (vol. ii., p. 191), "afterwards "supposed to be her sister, but eventually proved to be neither." On page 420 of the same volume is a rather vague entry of a Benningborough mare, "said to be out of a Buzzard mare, but "there is no satisfactory proof of her being so bred, or even tho-"roughbred," and that the Editor's doubts as to the accuracy of her pedigree were well-founded, is borne out by the great contemporary authority, Mr. George Baker, having noted in his copy of the *Stud-book* that her dam was not by Buzzard, but a mare named Miss, by Vauxhall Snap.

Again, Mary Tartar, for instance, was included without any pedigree of her dam, the entry merely stating that she was

“got by Tartar, out of a mare whose get was unknown.” In the revised edition of 1891, on the authority of Pick, it was further recorded that her dam’s real pedigree could never be ascertained, and that she had been bought by Mr. Barker in Malton Fair, in 1750, for £3 8s. 6d., less 5s. back, and that the buyer “was fearful she had been stolen,” taking the usual legal measures to protect himself in consequence. Mary Tartar, in 1756, having won His Majesty’s Plate of 100 gs. for five-year-old mares at Hambleton, this being a very important race at the time, no doubt accounted for Mr. Weatherby’s willingness to give her a place in the *Stud-Book*, considering from her form that she must be thoroughbred.

Another case was that of the Duke of Wellington’s well-known charger Copenhagen, the horse he rode at Waterloo, who was originally entered, but expugned from later issues, when it was discovered that his grandam was only a well-bred hunting mare of unknown pedigree.

There was perhaps some justification for considering him to be a thoroughbred horse, for a reference to the *Calendar* of 1811 shews that Copenhagen, then the property of General Grosvenor, ran ten times that year, winning a match at Newmarket and a sweepstakes at Huntingdon, besides being placed in other races. An entry in General Grosvenor’s writing, in the margin of his copy of the *Stud-Book*, opposite the name of the mare Lady Catherine, affords private information as to whence this horse derived his name: “Rode by General Grosvenor at the Siege of Copenhagen. Lady Catherine embarked at Copenhagen very heavy in foal with the colt which the Duke of Wellington rode at the Battle of Waterloo.”

In 1852, as the name of this celebrated horse was a subject of discussion, Mrs. Grosvenor, the General’s widow, in a letter to *The Times*, corroborated the above explanation.

More singular still was the inclusion of a “Bay Mare” (Vol. II., page 25) who is entered with all her produce and a long pedigree, which is, however, expressly stated to be “evidently false.”

Even as latterly as Vol. VI.<sup>1</sup> of the *Stud Book*, we find included a "Brown Mare, purchased at Mr. Bowes' sale at "Doncaster in 1837, and described as by Filho da Puta out of "Pluralist's dam, then six years old ; this pedigree is ascertained "to be incorrect." A list of her eight foals nevertheless follows, but as none of them appear to have gone to the stud, her lack of identity became a matter of small moment.

On the other hand, the Alfred Mare (Vol. II., page 12) out of Wonderful's dam, by Dainty Davy, whose pedigree is traced by Mr. Weatherby to about 1750, further back than Ormonde's, for example, was struck out in later editions, as the original mare, by Baboon, from which she came, was not proved to be of pure descent.

It is interesting to note, though the information will for the above reason not be found in the *General Stud Book*, that two well-known sires in The Lawyer (winner of fifteen Queen's Plates), and Lord Chaplin's famous horse Snowstorm, both trace to this very Alfred Mare. How often have certain breeders of hunters, to whom the very name of a thoroughbred stallion is anathema, triumphantly pointed to these two celebrated sires as proof positive of their contention that a leaven of impure blood is essential to success in the production of hunter stock, little thinking that the pedigree of these stallions could be traced in female line to about 1750, an earlier date than that to which some of the families recognised as thoroughbred can go back.

Snowstorm, the late Lord Chaplin was kind enough to write to us, "was as good a hunter as it was possible to ride, "and even with my weight, 18st., I could leave the field as if "they were standing still, if it was necessary." Surely after such testimony, no breeder need fear that weight-carrying hunters cannot be either thoroughbred, or produced by a thoroughbred sire, if selected from the right strain of blood.

In 1800 Mr. Weatherby brought out what he termed a *Supplement to the Stud Book*, with a view to bringing the produce of mares entered in the volume for 1793 up to date,

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1. See also note on Miss Atkinson, G.S.B. vol. v. (2nd edn.) p. 148.



and affording a further opportunity for the inclusion of additional mares. This issue had neither preface nor list of subscribers, and consisted of (Part I.) a number of mares not found in the earlier volume, and (Part II.) such additional information as to the produce of mares already registered as he had been able to obtain.

Strange to say, it also contained, quite contrary to the original "plan," which gave very little details besides bare entries, a "Dissertation on Horses," embracing no less than thirty pages, by Colonel Gilbert Ironside, of whom as an authority on the subject, we personally know nothing. In his treatise the Colonel entered into the origin and distribution of the horse throughout the world, and quoted liberally in its praise writers of all ages, from Cicero to Camerarius, and from Shakespeare to Lavater, the Swiss scientist, whose animal physiognomy was the craze of the moment.

Nor did he omit a reference to the well known lofty and sublime passages from the Book of Job, dealing with the horse and his demeanour in battle ; and other extracts from poetical writers.

Amongst this medley of information, it is of interest to note that he says, "No person has contributed so much to advance the breed of English horses as the present Earl Grosvenor" (the first Earl Grosvenor, 1731-1802, great-grand-father to the late Duke of Westminster is here alluded to).

He further added, "His stud of racers is unparalleled. And from a superb creature called Mambrino, formerly appertaining to his lordship, the breed of horses for the coach is brought nearly to perfection." One wonders what it was in the blood of Mambrino that singled him out from amongst all his contemporaries as a sire of horses for the road. Yet that such was the case admits of no doubt, and his son Messenger, exported to America in 1788, laid the foundation of the remarkable breed of trotting horses for which the United States is so renowned.



The Colonel made no allusion to either the Darley Arabian or the Byerley Turk, but of the remaining other great progenitor of the thoroughbred horse he says :—

“ There was somewhat of wonderful virtue and efficacy in the blood of a horse existing in England between forty and fifty years ago, called the Godolphin Arabian [the Godolphin died in December, 1753, aged about twenty-eight years] although it be not perfectly ascertained that he was of Arabian extraction, but from whatever source it issued, it was his high-mettled blood which communicated to the English horses that vigour and energy of spirits which distinguishes their intrinsic goodness, and renders them, next to the Arabs, far superior to any race. For the English, constantly crossing their own with the breed of every other country, produce a kind, though by no means as beautiful as the Arab, yet always far surpassing him in strength, and generally in swiftness. The Godolphin blood, crossed with the offspring of the Barb, are said to produce the best English racers and hunters.”

Alluding to Flying Childers, then regarded as a perfect phenomenon of speed, the Colonel laments his unexplained failure as a sire, and says :—

“ It is remarkable, however, that scarcely any fleet coursers sprang from the celebrated Childers, though himself the swiftest horse ever known ; on the contrary, his racers have proved eminently defective, declining, like our modern nobility, with an uncommon precipitation of degeneracy.”

This “retrogression towards the mean,” in both human beings and animals, is ever a subject of learned discussion by modern *savants*, and breeders for the turf have learnt by bitter experience the truth of this law of nature, finding that even the mating of two classic winners has occasionally resulted in a very inferior racehorse, and that breeding, consequently, cannot be reduced to an exact science.

The Dissertation aptly ends in an enumeration of sundry feats of equine endurance, in which our forefathers, who had only the horse as a means of locomotion, were naturally greatly interested.

In 1803 a further edition of Vol. I. was issued, bringing the records up to date, and it was followed in 1808 by the final publication, to which the editions of 1791, 1793, 1800, and

1803 were merely preliminaries. For the first time a preface was published which has only been given in this issue, and which appears in no other, save the revised version of 1891, where it is reproduced, and begins thus :

The author of the following pages, with a view to correct the then encreasing evil of false and inaccurate pedigrees, was, in the year 1791, prevailed upon to publish

“ An Introduction to a General Stud-book,”

consisting of a small collection of pedigrees which he had extracted from racing calendars and sale papers, and arranged on a new plan.

Mr. Weatherby further observed that with the assistance of the principal breeders it had grown into “ a bulky volume,” and while hoping it might prove useful, gave no hint of its continuance, nor was the book marked Volume I. This edition was, as before, mainly a reprint of all the pedigrees in the various previous issues, corrected to date, and arranged on the original plan. An obituary of famous stallions from the earliest times was added, though unfortunately not indexed, and no Irish mares were included in the records.

In 1891 a fifth and revised edition of this volume was issued, containing certain new features of such importance to students of pedigrees, that this reprint will be specially referred to hereafter.

Another Supplement to Volume I. was published in 1814, the editor apologising for the delay in its appearance by announcing that he had sustained a very severe loss by the death of the inventor and author of the former volumes, and that in consequence the work had been at a standstill from the spring of 1808 to the winter of 1812.

#### VOLUME II., 1822.

The second volume was not published till eight years later, and was on precisely the same lines as its predecessors, save that, in addition to the obituary, for the first time a list is given of stallions (ten) sent abroad. The preface affords a very interesting commentary on blood-stock matters of the

time, and remarks that certain mares which had been registered in earlier issues of the work, had been entirely lost sight of. It is probable that some of these missing mares, quite thoroughbred, became the dams of many of those famous "h-b." horses which flourished from that date onwards, causing wonderment by their superiority in speed to horses ostensibly far better bred.

The most interesting portion of the preface, however, is that which concerns the exportation of horses, and the avidity with which, even in those far-off days, they were sought after by foreigners. Mr. Weatherby saw already that the trade had been considerable enough to become "an object of some importance in a commercial point of view"; he further remarked that the foreigners were determined that we should not enjoy this superiority of our horse-stock for long, but they hoped soon to excel us, "together with a more careful selection of stallions and mares than they observe in England," and said they looked forward to the "day, not very distant, when the English must send to the Continent, if not for speedy, at least for *sound* horses."

Those most conversant with the subject are perfectly well aware, however repellant it may be to our insular pride, that many of the foreign buyers who come over here are much better judges than are some of our countrymen, who consider themselves to be competent authorities, and that occasionally we put up with defects in conformation, action, and various minor unsoundnesses in horses that the foreigner would not tolerate for a moment. Did not these Islands possess sundry advantages of soil, climate, and environment, which are lacking abroad, it is certain that by this time we should have found the careful discrimination of the Continental agents had freed their countries from the necessity of continually recruiting their stock from here. But, on the contrary, we should be buying from them, as they originally anticipated would be the case, though time has fortunately proved their expectations have not been realised.

## VOLUME III., 1832.

A section was now devoted to Irish mares, particulars of some of which had been found amongst the papers of "the Gentleman who originated the *General Stud Book*," but we regret that the list of subscribers, which had been given in the last two volumes, was henceforth eliminated, it having afforded so much information as to those of the day who were chiefly interested in horse breeding.

## VOLUME IV., 1840.

This volume contained the "produce of above 2,000 brood mares (exclusive of the Irish mares) and above 1,200 of these are now living in this country." The list of stallions sent abroad was far the longest hitherto shown, and now numbered eighty.

## VOLUME V., 1845.

In the preface, breeders were earnestly requested to make a return every summer. An "injustice to Ireland" occurred in that the mares of that country were printed in much smaller type than the rest of the work.

A curious feature of the first five volumes of the *General Stud Book*, which seems to require some little explanation, were the tables, briefly described as "Pedigrees of some Horses and Mares not included in the previous lists." The majority of the animals so entered appear to have been the only known produce of their dams, as presumably it was not until the publication of Vol. VI. the custom of the Editors to give a return of mares who had not bred more than one foal, save in a few isolated instances, an omission which opened a ready door to abuses, and for which no valid reason suggests itself.

Others were those whose immediate ancestors had not been entered in the *Stud Book*, but who ultimately traced to mares already registered; and some few appear to have been included for no reason at all, there being nothing to connect them with thoroughbred stock, as they were derived from

almost unknown parentage. For example, the only particulars afforded of Friend Ned (Vol. III., p. 511) are that he was "a grey horse, foaled in 1812, got by Camillus"; and of Round Robin (Vol. V., p. 376), "a bay horse, foaled in 1826, got by Borodino, out of a mare by Cerberus, whose further pedigree we have been unable to trace."

The inference we draw from this is that many fillies, the sole produce of their dams, were never registered at all, if it was indeed, as it certainly appears, the practice of the then Editors not to enter mares with single foals, and consequently when they in turn went to the Stud, their offspring would in many cases be lost sight of, and probably only appeared in the supplementary lists alluded to if they subsequently became of note, and search made for their pedigrees.

#### VOLUME VI., 1849.

From this date the *Stud Book* has been issued at regular intervals of four years. A new feature in this volume was the addition of a summary of mares accounted for, as under :—

| Date. | Colts. | Fillies. | Barren. | Slipped. | Total. |
|-------|--------|----------|---------|----------|--------|
| 1846  | 491    | 481      | 310     | 41       | 1323   |
| 1847  | 486    | 491      | 303     | 47       | 1327   |
| 1848  | 483    | 493      | 304     | 57       | 1337   |

"About 1,200 of these mares are in Great Britain, the rest "in Ireland."

The summary of mares for the years covered by each succeeding volume has been continued, with the exception of one year only, to the present time, and shows at a glance the steady increase in numbers of our thoroughbred stock. The year for which no summary is given is that of 1849, and singularly enough the *Racing Calendar* for that year does not contain the list of foals under their sires, which had been begun three years before, and was continued without any further break to 1893, when it was transferred from the *Racing Calendar* to the annual *Supplement to the Stud Book*, which will be referred to later on.

From considerations of space, only the returns for every fourth year will be given here for the purposes of comparison.



## VOLUME VII., 1853.

| Date. | Colts. | Filles. | Slipped. | Barren. | Total. |
|-------|--------|---------|----------|---------|--------|
| 1853  | 536    | 538     | 71       | 334     | 1479   |

A separate list of mares arranged under their sires was a new and most useful feature, but no pedigrees of the sires themselves were given, as in the later volumes. Another improvement was that the list of horses sent abroad now included brood mares as well as stallions. Further, the name of the actual breeder of each horse was now given, instead of "the person in whose name he first appears, or is likely to appear, in the *Racing Calendar*," which had been the custom hitherto, and was a source of some confusion, as in some cases it represented the breeder, and in others only a future owner of the animal.

To quote but two examples, the original entry of the famous Pocahontas shews against her the name of Mr. Greatrex, whose colours she carried in the Oaks and Goodwood Cup, but when she is given as a brood mare in subsequent volumes, she is stated to have been bred by Mr. Forth, though as she was sold as a foal (for 62 gs.) at the dispersal of the Royal Stud at Hampton Court on the 25th October, 1837, she must have been bred by King William IV., Lord Stradbroke buying her dam at the same sale for 230 gs.

Likewise the Alexander mare (dam of Castrel, Selim, Bronze, and Rubens) would appear at first sight to have had some thirteen owners during her career, but in reality her stud life was probably divided among only the Duke of Queensberry (whose name is not mentioned at all), King George IV., and possibly one other.

This departure synchronised with the change in the index to the *Racing Calendar*, horses in that publication henceforth being indexed under their own names, rather than under those of their owners'. It is scarcely credible that it took the compilers of the official *Racing Calendar* no less than seventy-seven years to arrive at this obvious arrangement, and then one is bound to add the innovation was not original, but was copied from *Ruff's Guide*, who had adopted it from its commencement, in



1845. It seems difficult of comprehension that all concerned with the Turf could have put up with such an inconvenient system for so long, for unless one happened to know the name of the owner of the horse, it necessitated reading the entire index through in order to find a particular animal.

### VOLUME VIII., 1857.

| Date. | Colts. | Fillies. | Slipped. | Barren. | Total. |
|-------|--------|----------|----------|---------|--------|
| 1856  | 705    | 650      | 61       | 448     | 1864   |

The lists of horses exported now included animals of all sexes and ages.

It may be of interest to recall that a mare named Red Ribbons, almost the earliest known ancestress of the "h-b" line which is now familiar to us as the "Galloping Queen Family,"<sup>1</sup> had actually been entered, and appeared as a brood mare throughout her life, in the original editions of Volumes VIII. and XI. of the *General Stud Book*, as did two of her daughters in Volume X.

About the year 1866, it was discovered that the pedigree of Red Ribbons' dam could not be traced on the female side, and both she and her descendants were consequently expunged from future issues. By the time Volume XIX. was published (1901), under the rules then in force, this particular family had qualified for re-admission, but on this fact being brought to the notice of the Editors some few years later, the conditions of entry were revised for the ensuing volume, and care taken that only animals of unquestionably pure descent should be henceforth admitted to the *General Stud Book*.

### VOLUME IX., 1861.

| Date. | Colts. | Fillies. | Slipped. | Barren. | Not covered<br>previous year. | Put to half-<br>bred sires. | Total. |
|-------|--------|----------|----------|---------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------|
| 1860  | 738    | 726      | 85       | 498     | 65                            | 33                          | 2145   |

It will be noticed that in this volume the above summary

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1. "H.-B." *Stud-book*, vol. i., p. 36.

has been further sub-divided, and thus made more complete.

In the section devoted to "Some Foreign and Other Horses not included in the preceding pages," will be found the entry of Lord Waterford's well-known horse Duc-an-Dhurras (1845), who, being a member of what is known as the "May-boy Family," was, in reality, not entitled to any place in the *Stud Book*. The following note was, however, appended to his entry (in conjunction with that of another horse of uncertain ancestry) :—

It has always been considered doubtful if *Duc-an-Dhurras* and *Goorkah* are thoroughbred, but as several of their foals appear in the preceding pages, and we have not ventured to call them half-bred, we think it better to give the pedigree of the two horses as far as they are known.

Having once allowed Duc-an-Dhurras to obtain even this insecure footing in the *General Stud Book*, it became increasingly difficult to draw the line, and some of his descendants, who had gained such qualified entrance as noted above, remained in the book for a period of thirty-one years, extending over five generations, as it was not until the publication of Volume XVII. (1893) that they were refused further entry, and definitely regarded as "h-b." Meantime, Duc-an-Dhurras himself had appeared in each volume in the list of Sires of Brood Mares, and was even included in the Obituary of Stallions in Vol. VI. (where, it may be mentioned, his age is incorrectly given, the date being that of a thoroughbred horse of the same name).

Probably the necessity for immediate action was prompted by the fact that at this date many of Mayboy's daughters would claim admission as brood mares, having been originally entered under their dams, in precisely the same way as had the Duc-an-Dhurras foals, and it would have been impossible to continue to extend registration to the descendants of the latter horse, while refusing it to those of Mayboy, who naturally had a better claim to entry, possessing two additional known crosses of pure blood. It is often asserted,

though without reason, that this particular family is "as thoroughbred as Eclipse," and merely excluded from the *General Stud Book*, owing to the pedigree having been lost in bygone days. It should, therefore, be stated that not only cannot the female line be traced beyond about 1812, but Spartacus, sire of Mayboy's fourth dam, was not of unquestionably pure descent, he being out of a mare named Mrs. Dawdle (1794), of whom only the sire and dam's sire were known. Mrs. Dawdle was ultimately entered in the third edition of Vol. III. of the *Stud-book*, but not until sixty-one years after her birth, and then only in a small supplementary collection of Irish Mares, which it was expressly recorded had "been compiled from the *Irish Racing Calendar*, chiefly from "the engagements in produce Stakes," and presumably not from particulars supplied by their owners. Mrs. Dawdle only bred one filly, which did not appear in any subsequent volume of the *Stud-book*.

## VOLUME X., 1865.

| Date. | Colts. | Filles. | Slipped. | Barren. | Not covered. | Put to h.b.<br>Sires. | Total. |
|-------|--------|---------|----------|---------|--------------|-----------------------|--------|
| 1864  | 756    | 810     | 95       | 537     | 75           | 35                    | 2309   |

In the Preface, the Editors note the confusion caused by the duplication of names, and intimate they will endeavour to obviate this inconvenience for the future. Particular mention is made of Sir Tatton Sykes' large stud at Sledmere, and attention drawn to the fact that very few of his brood mares had names, and that many of them being by the same sires, especial care had always been necessary in describing and arranging them. This remark applied particularly to the Sleight of Hand mares, of which there were forty-seven in the stud, all unnamed, at the time of Sir Tattons' death in 1863.

For the convenience of breeders, the pedigrees of the sires for three generations were now given in the List of Brood Mares.

## VOLUME XI., 1869.

| Date. | Colts. | Fillies. | Slipped. | Barren. | Not covered. | Put to h.b.<br>Sires. | Died. | Sent abroad. | Total. |
|-------|--------|----------|----------|---------|--------------|-----------------------|-------|--------------|--------|
| 1868  | 972    | 949      | 127      | 719     | 98           | 36                    | 111   | 62           | 3074   |

The Stallions in the Obituary were now indexed for the first time, which materially added to its usefulness, saving much unnecessary research, and the Horses Sent Abroad were arranged under the heads of the countries to which they were exported, and also indexed. The above Summary was also further dissected and amplified.

## VOLUME XII., 1873.

| Date. | Colts. | Fillies. | Slipped. | Barren. | Not covered. | Put to h.b.<br>Sires. | Died. | Sent abroad. | Total. |
|-------|--------|----------|----------|---------|--------------|-----------------------|-------|--------------|--------|
| 1872  | 881    | 888      | 94       | 694     | 168          | 50                    | 110   | 68           | 2953   |

An account of Mr. Blenkiron's sale at Middle Park, Kent, was given to shew the great extent and value of this stud :

|                                                                                     | Gs.     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 60 Yearlings, sold June 15, 1872, produced .. ..                                    | 17,085  |
| 43 ditto, sold July 6, produced .. ..                                               | 5,030   |
| 129 Mares with foals, 70 Mares without foals, sold July 23,<br>24, 25, and 26 .. .. | 67,785  |
| 12 Stallions, including Blair Athol and Gladiateur .. ..                            | 34,720  |
|                                                                                     | <hr/>   |
|                                                                                     | 124,620 |
|                                                                                     | <hr/>   |

Blair Athol was bought by the original Cobham Stud Company for the then unprecedented price of 12,500gs. ; Gladiateur was sold for 7,000gs., and Breadalbane, brother to Blair Athol, for 6,000gs. Breadalbane and several brood mares were purchased for exportation to the Continent, and a few mares for the United States.

## VOLUME XIII., 1877.

| Date. | Colts. | Fillies. | Slipped. | Barren. | Not covered. | Put to h.b.<br>Sires. | Died. | Sent abroad. | Total. |
|-------|--------|----------|----------|---------|--------------|-----------------------|-------|--------------|--------|
| 1876  | 879    | 863      | 121      | 636     | 142          | 62                    | 85    | 70           | 2858   |

The Editor remarks on the considerable number of stallions and mares now in this country which were bred abroad, especially in France, and comments on the excellent Stud Books now published in France, Germany, Austria, the United States of America, and the Australian Colonies.

Certificates of pedigrees were now required by the Rules of Racing to be produced before foreign-bred horses could run in this country.

## VOLUME XIV., 1881.

| Date. | Colts. | Fillies. | Barren. | Slipped. | Not covered. | Put to h.b.<br>Sires. | Died. | Sent abroad. | Total. |
|-------|--------|----------|---------|----------|--------------|-----------------------|-------|--------------|--------|
| 1880  | 969    | 954      | 801     | 161      | 115          | 78                    | 145   | 76           | 3299   |

It is noted that the exportation of thoroughbred horses continues on a large scale, and was especially increased for breeding purposes in the direction of the South African Colonies and North and South America. Also that many foreign horses, sent to run in this country, had been retained in our studs, and their pedigrees were briefly recorded at the end of the *Stud Book*.

A note was made that "a recent importation of Arabians, "from the believed best Desert strains, will, it is hoped, when "the increase of size has been gained, by training, feeding, and "acclimatisation, give a valuable new line of blood from the "original source of the English thoroughbred." These Arabians (practically all the property of Mr. W. S. Blunt), were included in this volume in a separate section, which arrangement still holds good. They were imported from Northern Arabia to

Crabbet Park, Surrey, in 1878, and comprised three colts and nineteen fillies. As these "children of the Desert" have proved utterly worthless as a cross for our present strain of racehorses for nearly a century past, their retention in the *Stud Book* is a very doubtful advantage.

The last half-bred Arab of any outstanding merit of which we know, was the mare, Fair Ellen, bred by Lord Mansfield in 1806, got by the Wellesley Grey Arabian out of Maria, by Matchem, and going back to the Burton Barb mare. After spending her youth in the Dorking Coach, she became a very successful brood mare, producing, amongst others, three fillies, one of which won the Oaks, and the other two were second for the same race, whilst her grey son, The Exquisite, ran second for the Derby. Mr. Theobald, of Stockwell fame, gave 3,000gs. for him as a stallion, but, with all the advantages he was able to afford him, the horse was a failure at the stud, though his sisters certainly bred a number of winners.

During the present century, one or two horses of Arabian descent<sup>1</sup> have occasionally been successful, and Lord Zetland's Ace of Diamonds, who won two small races as lately as 1922, and now in Mr. James de Rothschild's stud, at Waddesdon, is but very little removed on her dam's side from a pure-bred Arab. A daughter of Holiday House, she is out of Jael by Friary, out of Debora, a mare bred by the late Mr. W. S. Blunt from imported parents.

Laracor, quite a smart two-year-old not many years ago, and for whom M. Mantacheff gave 2,500 guineas at the Newmarket Sales, also comes from an Arab tap-root of comparatively recent date. When Messrs. Tattersall dispersed the Royal Stud at Hampton Court on October 25th, 1837, amongst the lots was a bay filly foal, by The Colonel (a St. Leger winner), out of a grey Arabian mare of the purest caste, which had been presented by the Imaun of Muscat to King William IV. This foal was bought by the elder Sir Tatton Sykes for 76 guineas, Pocahontas, also then a foal, fetching fourteen guineas less. Sir Tatton's purchase became the dam of

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1. See Mashed Potato, p. 123.



Miss Sykes (1854) by The Castor, who bred the beautiful mare Brunette to Codrington, the great-great-grand-dam of Moscato (winner of the Royal Hunt Cup in 1911), and the great-great-great-grand-dam of Laracor.

## VOLUME XV., 1885.

| Date. | Colts. | Fillies. | Barren. | Slipped. | Not covered. | Put to h.b. sires. | Died. | Sent abroad. | Total. |
|-------|--------|----------|---------|----------|--------------|--------------------|-------|--------------|--------|
| 1884  | 1001   | 956      | 801     | 127      | 176          | 51                 | 168   | 86           | 3366   |

It was explained that in consequence of foreign governments, and racing clubs, now requiring export certificates, a more complete list of horses sent abroad was now able to be made.

In this particular volume only, several pages were devoted to a schedule of the principal strains of blood in direct male line, showing the descent of all the most prominent stallions of the day from their three original ancestors, the Darley Arabian, the Byerley Turk, and the Godolphin. This synopsis clearly sets forth the relationship existing between the three great lines of blood, and will be found of assistance to those who are not conversant with pedigrees generally, affording in the space of a few pages much information as to the breeding and descent of any stallion of note that was at the stud at this period.

## VOLUME XVI., 1889.

| Date. | Colts. | Fillies. | Barren. | Slipped. | Not covered. | Put to h.b. sires. | Died. | Sent abroad. | Total. |
|-------|--------|----------|---------|----------|--------------|--------------------|-------|--------------|--------|
| 1888  | 1069   | 1141     | 839     | 129      | 130          | 44                 | 125   | 80           | 3561   |

The only comment made by the Editors in this issue relates to the great increase in exportation of our thoroughbred stock to almost all countries of the universe. The summary above only shews that eighty brood mares left our shores in the year

1888, but forty-nine pages of this volume are devoted to the various lists of horses, mares, and geldings sent abroad, an approximate number of two thousand three hundred animals in the short space of four years covered by this issue ; certainly a most surprising total, forming an eloquent testimony to the national importance of the horse-breeding industry, dealing, as it does, with thoroughbred stock only.

## VOLUME XVII., 1893.

| Date. | Colts. | Filles. | Barron. | Slipped. | Not covered. | Put to h.b. sires. | Died. | Sent abroad. | Total. |
|-------|--------|---------|---------|----------|--------------|--------------------|-------|--------------|--------|
| 1892  | 1517   | 1523    | 1206    | 258      | 93           | 32                 | 169   | 132          | 4930   |

It was stated that the number of individual breeders was on the increase, and that they now reached about fourteen hundred. Owing to the confusion caused by the repetition of names, the Jockey Club, from the 1st January, 1890, required that horses of the same name should for the future be distinguished by a numeral, a highly necessary and long-needed reform.

A Supplement to this volume was published in the autumn of 1893, and Messrs. Weatherby announced that these Supplements would be continued annually in future, as they would tend to expedite the publication of the *Stud Book*, and contribute to its greater accuracy. This Supplement gave a return of the produce of brood mares for the year 1893, and was stated to be in lieu of the List of Foals formerly published in the *Racing Calendars* ; it is, however, unfortunate that this useful innovation should have supplanted the List of Foals under their Sires, which had been supplied continuously from 1846 (with, as previously mentioned, the single exception of the year 1849), and has never been furnished for this particular year (1893) in subsequent issues of either *Racing Calendar* or *Stud Book*.

The omission of this valuable source of information was

generally regretted, and in consequence the next year's Supplement contained lists of foals arranged under both their sires and dams, but unfortunately in the former list their colours are not given, as they always had been in the *Racing Calendar*, and though this information was again afforded in the next, and succeeding issues, it is still lacking for the year 1894.

These annual Supplements continued to appear in their original form up to 1921, when an important and far-reaching alteration in their composition was decided upon, as from this date, the entire number of mares covered by each stallion is shewn complete under his heading, instead of only those which produced timely foals to him, as heretofore.

This departure, which affords information invaluable to breeders, and for which they are much indebted to Messrs. Weatherby, entailed the publication of startling revelations, both as to the excessive number of mares taken to some of the ultra-fashionable stallions, and also as to the marked lack of fertility on the part of certain horses.

Indeed, a study of the yearly Supplements is but dismal reading for the most part, and is a record of disappointment, almost enough to deter anyone from venturing on such a hazardous undertaking as breeding bloodstock.

### VOLUME XVIII., 1897.

| Date. | Colts. | Fillies. | Barren. | Slipped. | Not covered. | Put to h.b.<br>Sires. | Died. | Sent abroad. | Total. |
|-------|--------|----------|---------|----------|--------------|-----------------------|-------|--------------|--------|
| 1896  | 1652   | 1652     | 1287    | 144      | 186          | 45                    | 207   | 66           | 5239   |

Notice is taken of the importation to this country of a number of horses and mares bred in the United States of America and Australia, "some of which may remain here permanently, and thus influence our native breed," but the Editors issue a warning that "the pedigrees of these horses,

“though accepted in the *Stud Books* of their own country, cannot in all cases be traced back to the thoroughbred stock exported from England, from which they all claim to be, and from which no doubt they mainly are, descended.”

## VOLUME XIX., 1901.

| Date. | Colts. | Fillies. | Barren. | Slipped. | Not covered. | Put to h.b.<br>Sires. | Died. | Sent abroad. | No return. | Total. |
|-------|--------|----------|---------|----------|--------------|-----------------------|-------|--------------|------------|--------|
| 1900  | 1753   | 1674     | 1310    | 169      | 216          | 65                    | 267   | 190          | 246        | 5890   |

In this volume is given for the first time the number of mares for which no return had been made, or which had been put out of the stud, thus shewing the correct total of mares actually accounted for. The Editors also added a note, which has since appeared in every succeeding volume, that their records shew that about eight mares in a thousand breed twins,<sup>1</sup> and consequently the totals should be proportionately reduced. In reality, however, the average at the present time somewhat exceeds this figure, and doubtless, in some cases, twins are omitted from the returns sent in to Messrs. Weatherby, certain owners being averse to chronicle what is generally looked upon as one of the disappointments of breeding.

In response to a very general request, the colours of the brood mares were now given with their entry.

Owing to the continued influx of foreign-bred horses, the condition of entry of animals to the *Stud Book*, which had hitherto remained entirely at the discretion of the Editors, was now referred by them to the Stewards of the Jockey Club, “as the highest authority on all matters connected with the “Turf.” It was finally settled:—

that any animal claiming admission should be able to prove satisfactorily some eight or nine crosses of pure blood, to trace back for at

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1. Page 53.

least a century, and to show such performances of its immediate family on the Turf as to warrant the belief in the purity of its blood."

The Editors further stated that all imported horses or mares included in this volume had been submitted to this test ; they also gave some particulars of the case of the Australian horse Newhaven II., for whose inclusion an outcry had been raised in certain quarters, but their wisdom in declining to accept him has since been fully justified, and the horse finally left this country for the country's good.

### VOLUME XX., 1905.

| Date. | Colts. | Fillies. | Barren. | Slipped. | Not covered. | Put to h.b.<br>Sires. <sup>j</sup> | Died. | Sent abroad. | No return. | Total. |
|-------|--------|----------|---------|----------|--------------|------------------------------------|-------|--------------|------------|--------|
| 1904  | 1565   | 1542     | 1272    | 132      | 277          | 119                                | 215   | 221          | 318        | 5661   |

In this volume, at the special request of the Irish breeders, their mares were no longer given in a separate section, but included alphabetically amongst the English mares, it being considered invidious to differentiate between them as heretofore. Notwithstanding, in 1916, they requested that any export certificates of their horses should be marked, "Bred in Ireland," and once more their wishes were duly complied with, in the hope of satisfying national aspirations, though in direct opposition to their former demand for equality.

### VOLUME XXI., 1909.

| Date. | Colts. | Fillies. | Barren. | Slipped. | Not covered. | Put to h.b.<br>Sires. | Died. | Sent abroad. | No return. | Total. |
|-------|--------|----------|---------|----------|--------------|-----------------------|-------|--------------|------------|--------|
| 1908  | 1450   | 1455     | 1205    | 106      | 204          | 67                    | 258   | 214          | 198        | 5147   |

The conditions of entry for the *Stud Book*, which were now on a different footing to those which formerly prevailed, continued to occupy the careful attention of the Editors, and

they found it incumbent upon them to give notice "that since the last volume of the *Stud Book* was published, they have had cause to consider the advisability of admitting into the *Stud Book* horses and mares which cannot be traced to a thoroughbred root, but which have fulfilled the requirements given in the Preface to Vol. XIX. They have decided that in the interest of the English *Stud Book*, no horse or mare can be admitted, unless it can be traced to a strain already accepted in the earlier volumes of the book."

Consequently, the former conditions of entry were rescinded, and the Stewards of the Jockey Club fully endorsed the decision arrived at.

## VOLUME XXII., 1913.

| Date. | Colts. | Fillies. | Barren. | Slipped. | Not covered. | Put to h.b.<br>Sires. | Died. | Sent abroad. | No return. | Total. |
|-------|--------|----------|---------|----------|--------------|-----------------------|-------|--------------|------------|--------|
| 1912  | 1533   | 1523     | 1418    | 140      | 192          | 84                    | 221   | 200          | 196        | 5507   |

At a meeting of the Jockey Club in May, 1913, it was suggested that the wording of the conditions of entry for the *General Stud Book* should be further altered, with a view to making them still more explicit for the future. The qualification now reads as follows:—

"No horse or mare can, after this date, be considered as eligible for admission unless it can be traced without flaw on both sire's and dam's side of its pedigree to horses and mares themselves already accepted in the earlier volumes of the book.

"The Editors reserve to themselves the sole right to decide what horses or mares can, under the above qualification, be admitted or excluded from the book."

Consequently, though the *Stud Book* was apparently not to be purged of its existing impurities by expunging animals who never ought to have gained entry (though for this course there was, as we have already shewn, ample precedent), henceforth no horse or mare whose pedigree cannot be satisfactorily



traced at all points, can ever hope for admission. It was unfortunately the case that, during the latter half of last century several animals of foreign origin (alluded to by the Editors in the Preface to Volume XVIII.), accepted for the *Stud Books* of their own countries, were included in the *General Stud Book*, though their pedigrees could not, in many cases, be traced back to throughbred stock exported from England. These animals were frequently far less purely bred than were many of our native stock, racing under the stigma of "h-b.," and for which, in certain instances, recognition as thoroughbred had long been strenuously demanded, and refused.

Owing to the new rule governing entry to the *Stud Book* not being made retrospective, a somewhat paradoxical position has arisen, which is well illustrated in the pedigree of Diapason, winner of the Goodwood Stakes last year. His dam was debarred, and of course rightly debarred, from admission to the *General Stud Book* owing to the fact that Hanover, maternal grandsire of Sir Martin, does not trace "without flaw" to registered stock, as required by rule.

On the other hand, Hanover occupies precisely the same position in the pedigree of Diapason's sire, Diadumenos (son of Orby), Orby's dam, a Hanover mare, having obtained unquestioned entrance some years earlier. Hence we have the anomaly of Hanover ranking as clean bred in the upper half of Diapason's pedigree, while in the lower portion the self-same horse is regarded as "tainted," and his descendant Diapason consequently cannot claim recognition as a thoroughbred horse.

Such a situation, however, was bound to occur, unless at the time the new rule was passed, all such animals as had gained admission under the former more elastic conditions, and were now no longer eligible, had been struck out.

The extended pedigree of Diapason is appended, shewing the respective positions occupied by Hanover in the ancestry of his sire and dam.

|                 |             |               |                |                  |                    |
|-----------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|--------------------|
| DIAPASON (1921) | Diadumenos  | Orby          | Orme           | { Ormonde        | { Bend Or          |
|                 |             |               | *Rhoda B.      | { Angelica       | { Lily Agnes       |
|                 |             | Donnetta      | Donovan        | { <b>Hanover</b> | { Galopin          |
|                 |             |               |                | { Margerine      | { St. Angela       |
|                 |             |               | Rinovata       | { Galopin        | { Hindoo           |
|                 |             |               |                | { Mowerina       | { Bourbon Belle    |
| Venturesome     | *Sir Martin | Ogden         | Kilwarlin      | { Wenlock        | { Algerine         |
|                 |             |               |                | { Traviata       | { Sweet Songstress |
|                 |             | Lady Sterling | Oriole         | { Lord Clifden   | { Vedette          |
|                 |             |               |                | { Cremorne       | { Flying Duchess   |
|                 |             | Ventura       | St. Frusquin   | { The White Lady | { Scottish Chief   |
|                 |             |               |                | { Lady Loverule  | { Stockings        |
| Venturesome     | *Sir Martin | Lady Sterling | <b>Hanover</b> | { Lord Clifden   | { Mineral          |
|                 |             |               |                | { Traviata       | { The White Lady   |
|                 | Ogden       | Lady Sterling | Oriole         | { Arbitrator     | { Hasty Girl       |
|                 |             |               |                | { Bend Or        | { Fenela           |
|                 | Ventura     | St. Amant     | St. Frusquin   | { Hindoo         | { Bourbon Belle    |
|                 |             |               |                | { Lady Loverule  | { Sterling         |
| Venturesome     | *Sir Martin | Lady Sterling | <b>Hanover</b> | { Eagle          | { St. Simon        |
|                 |             |               |                | { Aquila         | { Isabel           |
|                 | Ogden       | Lady Sterling | Oriole         | { Muncaster      | { Nellie           |
|                 |             |               |                | { St. Simon      | { Feronia          |
|                 | Ventura     | St. Amant     | St. Frusquin   | { Wenlock        | { Traviata         |
|                 |             |               |                | { Lady Loverule  |                    |

\*Imported from U.S.A.

It is unnecessary to add that the action of Messrs. Weatherby and the Stewards of the Jockey Club met with the hearty approval of all breeders of any standing both at home and abroad, it being universally agreed to be of paramount importance that the pages of the *Stud Book* should be zealously safeguarded, and that every precaution should be taken to preserve the high character of the book in its entirety.

Thus from henceforth the *General Stud Book* is hermetically closed to all but those animals to whose admission there could be no possible objection, and the needs of registration for racing stock ineligible for entry has been provided for

elsewhere in an independent publication,<sup>1</sup> dealing with the pedigrees and performances of "half-bred" racehorses.

The stringency of the new rules concerning admission to the *General Stud Book* has resulted in a number of well-known animals being debarred from entry. Some writers in the American press have sought to make a national grievance of these regulations, asserting, but without any justification, that they were mainly directed against their own stock, to the advantage of our home breed. A little research, however, would have convinced them that there was no ground whatever for this assumption, and that the exclusion rule presses with far greater severity on many breeders in this country, who have owned for generations families of race-horses excluded from the *Stud Book*.

The famous May Boy family, whose descendants yearly win so many races, and for whose admittance persistent efforts had long been made, is only one of several notable breeds of our native race-horses now denied admission. If a further proof of impartiality is required, Lord Coventry, the senior member of the Jockey Club, is content to see his mare Verdict, a winner of the Cambridgeshire, outside the pages of the *General Stud Book*, as she fails to conform to its requirements, much as his lordship would like to see her entered.

#### VOLUME XXIII., 1917.

| Year. | Colts. | Fillies. | Barren. | Slipped. | Not covered. | Put to Sires<br>not in the<br>Stud Book. | Died. | Sent abroad. | No return. | Total. |
|-------|--------|----------|---------|----------|--------------|------------------------------------------|-------|--------------|------------|--------|
| 1916  | 1840   | 1849     | 1456    | 154      | 231          | 90                                       | 325   | 127          | 358        | 6430   |

This volume is precisely a continuation of the last issue, except that in the above Summary of Mares the expression "Put to h.b. sires" has been dropped, and such horses are, for the future, described as "Sires not in the *Stud Book*."

1. The "H.-B." *Stud Book*, a Register of the Pedigrees and Performances of the best known Race-horses which are ineligible for entry in the *General Stud Book* (*Sporting Life Office*).

## VOLUME XXIV., 1921.

| Year. | Colts. | Fillies. | Barren. | Slipped. | Not covered<br>in preceding<br>year. | Put to Sires<br>not in the<br>Stud Book. | Died. | Sent abroad. | No return. | Total. |
|-------|--------|----------|---------|----------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------|--------------|------------|--------|
| 1920  | 1564   | 1538     | 1460    | 105      | 325                                  | 54                                       | 236   | 162          | 213        | 5656   |

As each succeeding book makes its appearance, less opportunity is left for improvements, but a very decided one may be noticed in the volume in question, under the list of Horses sent Abroad, where the name of the country of export, and sex of the animals, is now repeated at the top of each page, thus greatly adding to the facility of research.

## VOLUME XXV., 1925.

| Year. | Colts. | Fillies. | Barren. | Slipped. | Not covered<br>in preceding<br>year. | Put to Sires<br>not in the<br>Stud Book. | Died. | Sent abroad. | No return. | Total. |
|-------|--------|----------|---------|----------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------|--------------|------------|--------|
| 1924  | 1697   | 1618     | 1528    | 112      | 290                                  | 56                                       | 275   | 151          | 119        | 5846   |

The number of brood mares accounted for in the *Stud Book* had reached its highest point in 1916, just before Vol. XXIII. was issued, namely 6,430, and a gradual and steady decline set in from that date onwards ; in 1921, five years afterwards, the figures had dropped to 5,299, a difference of well over 1,100 mares, or one-sixth of the whole.

The pendulum has, however, now swung the other way, and the current volume records increased totals for each year it embraces, while it is also highly satisfactory to note that the number of mares for which no return was made has dropped during the last four years to the lowest level since this information was first afforded.

Acting, presumably, from motives of economy of space, the Editors have now taken a step which can scarcely be

considered other than a retrograde one, in no longer providing an index in the most valuable list of "Mares under their Sires," only the bare names now appearing, with no paging ; thus, to trace the daughters of any particular stallion, reference has to be made for every mare to the general index at the beginning of the book, while un-named mares, save in a few instances, are not now indexed at all. The only apparent advantage gained by this omission is that each page now contains four columns of names, instead of three, and it is much to be hoped that the former plan, which has held since 1849, may be reverted to in future issues.

It is, however, satisfactory to find that the efforts made by the Editors during the past few years to reduce the number of un-named mares in the *Stud Book* have met with the success they deserved, and we are far removed from the days when forty-six mares, none of them named, figured under the heading of one sire—Sleight of Hand.

\* \* \*

The history of this ancient work, which may be fairly regarded as a national possession, has now been traced from its inception in the year 1791 to the present day ; it only remains to ascertain what further information can be extracted from its pages, beyond the bare historical records of births and deaths of thoroughbred stock.

A review of the whole period embraced by these volumes somewhat leads one to the conclusion that in the earlier years of the *Stud Book* mares bred slightly more regularly, and up to a greater age than is now the case, and as a general rule were rather longer lived. One might have been able to enter into such matters in greater detail, but unfortunately as the *Stud Book* grew older, its pages became more and more exclusively devoted to the mere chronicling of births, and in each succeeding volume this feature seems more pronounced than in the last. Even the prefaces, which in the earlier issues often afforded an interesting commentary on current bloodstock matters, have also had the same tendency towards

restriction in later years, perhaps from considerations of space, but to the undoubted disadvantage of future generations of horse breeders.

In former days an anecdote of interest was occasionally allowed to enliven its prosaic story, but very seldom now do the Editors permit themselves to stray a hair's breadth from their set course, and frequently eliminate from later editions these former little departures from the actual text. Yet what a mine of information about men and mares—now unfortunately far beyond our reach—those many volumes might have afforded us, and what profit might not have been gained from the experiences, too often bitter ones, of a century and a half of breeders?

It is interesting to read, for example, in the original volume, that Lord Molyneux's Whimsey was "out of a favourite Mare of Mr. Robinson's, in Yorkshire: which Mare Mr. R., on his deathbed, ordered his son never to part with, but the son, meeting with an untimely death, the stud was disposed of, and this favourite Mare, then in foal with Whimsey, purchased for Lord Molyneux." Or that the famous horse, Cade, was so named because he was reared on cow's milk from a fortnight old, and a quotation from Dr. Johnson's dictionary is given in support, thus:—

"To Cade, to breed up in softness."

—*Johnson.*

We are told that the Coffin mare derived her somewhat singular name from having been long hidden by Mr. Place, studmaster to Oliver Cromwell (from whom he had stolen her), in a cellar in Fenchurch Street, London, till the search for her had gone by, though her exact identity does not seem ever to have been satisfactorily established, nor what relationship, if any, she bore to the Duke of Somerset's Coppin Mare.

Promise, by Snap, the Duke of Grafton's wonderful mare, it is stated, was shot, "being in much misery from a violent humour"; and Madcap's "Adamant colt (1788) was suckled by Elden, who having lost her own foal, drove Madcap, and



took possession of her's." Again, it would have been a misfortune had not the enthusiasm of a weaver been recorded, who travelled on foot from his far-off home in Yorkshire, all the way to Petworth Park, in Sussex, to fetch the Vauxhall Snap filly, which had been given to him by the Earl of Egremont, and led her back. From Mr. George Baker's annotated Stud book we are able to add that this ancient horse-lover's name was Willey, and that he lived at Hurworth, on the borders of Durham, thus walking at any rate 600 miles before he reached home with his mare, but the chance of thus acquiring one of Lord Egremont's famous breed doubtless made light work of his journey.

In recent times we have been but too familiar with disastrous outbreaks of disease at stud farms, and one such visitation in the Petworth Stud above mentioned was sufficiently noteworthy to be specially recorded in the *Stud Book* :—

The year 1825 was remarkable in the Petworth Stud for the production of dead foals, as will be observed in the account of this [Wasp] and many of the preceding mares. The mortality was not confined to the bloodstock, or to any particular week or month, but extended throughout the season, from February to June, and equally affected the produce of the Cart mares, and of the Asses. Some of the foals were opened, and it was supposed that their livers were diseased. Fourteen mares produced dead foals, and three produced unhealthy ones, which lived but a short time, and all the Asses produced dead foals. The mares were in different situations, and with different keeping, but in general they were pastured upon a very high dry land with a light soil of little depth, upon a bed of stone; they went their full time, or very near it, and the foals were known to be alive within three or four days of foaling, and were fine and of full size.

The author particularly mentions, but in a very apologetic manner, that he was induced to deviate thus far from his original plan as to put on record that Highflyer never paid forfeit, and was never beaten, as on account of an error in the index to the *Racing Calendar* of 1777, the contrary has been alleged, this horse being confused with another of the same name by Herod out of Marotte, and that many bets have been won and lost in consequence.

Tawney, by Crab, it is related, "was one of the leaders in "the Queensberry Carriage Match," and for the benefit of those who possess the well-known print of this famous Match against Time, we may add that the mare was on the near side, though the *Stud Book* is silent on this point. It was run in August, 1750, and was the outcome of a wager for 1,000 Guineas made by Lord March (afterwards Duke of Queensberry) that he would get a four-wheeled carriage, containing a passenger, drawn by four horses, to cover a distance of nineteen miles in one hour, which he succeeded in doing in fifty-three minutes, twenty-seven seconds. The horses, which were all well-known on the Turf, were trained as for racing, and were each ridden. William Everett, Mr. Panton's stud groom, was on Tawney, and had the duty of regulating the speed. This mare, it may be mentioned, was a granddaughter of the Duke of Rutland's Bonny Black<sup>1</sup>; while the off-side leader was a grey horse named Roderick Random, a winner of the previous season.

Appended to the entry of Boadicea (1807) is the bare announcement that she "was used as a hunter several years "prior to 1819." It may be interesting to add that Boadicea's mission for five seasons was to carry Charles King, the famous huntsman of the Pytchley hounds, and was as much his favourite mare as her own brother, Benvolio, was his master Sir Charles Knightley's, champion hunter. Tradition, aided by the facile pen of the late Mr. Francis Lawley, having woven a picturesque, but fallacious, legend round the history of Boadicea, it may be well to place on record some details of her career, as extracted from the "horse book" at Althorp Park, on our behalf, by the kindness of the late Lord Spencer.

It shews that Boadicea was bought for the hunt by Lord Althorp for one hundred guineas, from Sir Charles Knightley, in 1814, and re-sold at Tattersalls' for eighty guineas on the 17th May, 1819, when the joint-masters gave up the Pytchley hounds, being purchased by Lady Grosvenor, the mare having been bred by her father, the first Lord Wilton.

At the stud, Boadicea became the grand-dam of two St. Leger winners in Touchstone and Launcelot, besides being the maternal ancestress of Hippias, the foundation stone of the Rothschild stud, and also of Admiration (the dam of Pretty Polly), who was descended from her through both sire and dam.

#### ADMIRATION.

(Dam of the winners of forty-three races, value £52,484).

|                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Out of Gaze             | By Saraband,            |
| „ Eyepleaser            | His dam Highland Fling  |
| „ Wallflower            | Out of Masquerade       |
| „ Chaperon              | „ Burlesque             |
| „ Leamington's dam      | „ <i>Maid of Honour</i> |
| „ Daphne                | „ Etiquette             |
| „ <i>Maid of Honour</i> | „ BOADICEA              |
| „ Etiquette             |                         |
| „ BOADICEA              |                         |

Further, to shew how very closely this family has been successfully inbred to, it will be seen from the appended table, that of the above-mentioned Masquerade's four grand-parents, three traced in direct female line to Boadicea :—

|                                                         |   |                       |   |                                                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------|---|-----------------------|---|-------------------------------------------------|
| MASQUERADE<br>(Winner of a<br>Biennial at<br>Newmarket) | { | Lambourne             | { | Loup Garou                                      |
|                                                         |   |                       |   | Sister to Satirist—Sarcasm—<br>Banter—BOADICEA. |
|                                                         | { | Burlesque             | { | Touchstone—Banter—BOADICEA.                     |
|                                                         |   | (Won eleven<br>races) |   | Maid of Honour—Etiquette—<br>BOADICEA.          |

Sharper, by Octavius, comes in for special mention as the hero of a brutal match run in Russia, “where he and Mina were matched to run seventy-five versts (forty-nine and three quarter English miles) on the public road against two Cossack horses; Mina falling lame was pulled up early in the race, which Sharper won with ease, notwithstanding the loss of a stirrup, and the consequent inability of his rider to restrain him for several miles. The Cossack horses had nearly three stone advantage in weight, and one of them fell at the

end of twenty-five miles, and died. This race was run in 1825, near St. Petersburg." It is comforting to know that the unfortunate Sharper recovered sufficiently to run for a race of two thousand roubles in the July of the following year.

Certain foreigners appear to have a *penchant* for such degrading exhibitions, and our own Gimcrack, the beloved of York, when he passed temporarily into the possession of Count Lauraguais, was matched to do  $22\frac{1}{2}$  miles in the hour, and both of these exploits received the condemnation they deserved in the Press of the day in this country.

So far as we are aware, the various *Stud Books* record only two transactions in horseflesh, besides the purchase of <sup>1</sup>Mary Tartar in Malton Fair, already alluded to; but particular mention is made that Lord Godolphin's stud-groom bought the two famous Hartley mares (Large and Little) for 160 guineas each from Mr. Hartley in Yorkshire, a great bargain indeed, as they figure in many pedigrees.

It is, however, expressly stated that Lord Grosvenor gave 1,000 gs. for the Fox mare, dam of Snap, in 1762, the *Stud Book* shewing her to have been foaled in 1740. But a reference to Mr. Cuthbert Routh's<sup>2</sup> stud-book proves that this celebrated mare, who was the joint property of Lord Portmore and himself, was foaled in 1738, not in 1740, so she was twenty-four years old when Lord Grosvenor gave this large sum for her, probably an unprecedented price at that time, for a mare of any age.

In connection with the two Hartley mares, it may be mentioned that they appear to enjoy the distinction of being (with their sister) the only animals in the whole twenty-five volumes of the *Stud Book* of whom the exact date of birth is given, this information being afforded in the revised edition of Vol. I.

It was duly noted that Penumbra, by Northumberland, foaled in the year of the great eclipse (1764), received his

name in consequence, but a hundred years passed before the Editors explained that Eclipse himself derived his name from the same circumstance, and not because he eclipsed all other competitors, as is frequently supposed.

Daub (1805) is mentioned as having, after breeding two foals, quitted the paddock for the Peninsular War, and certainly history has lately repeated itself as regards this incident, as many a brood mare recently left our shores to take her part in the European War.

An examination of Volume XXIII. of the *Stud Book* will shew that no less than fifty-nine of the brood mares entered therein had been sold as remounts, and this number was afterwards largely augmented in the subsequent Supplements of 1917 and 1918. It would seem that neither age, fashionable pedigree, nor performances on the Turf, were sufficient to save them from this fate, and one marvels how such mares could have been passed into the service. Amongst the more remarkable of those thus rudely conscripted, Wild Lilly, by Macheath, was twenty-two years old when sold to the army; Jettatura only seventeen, but was dam of four winners, and had reared a foal that very season; Galopin Saint was a year older, and one of the last remaining Galopin mares; Annaross was nineteen, but the vendor considerably concealed her identity by suppressing her pedigree when sold. Little Denmark, then only ten years old, was another, the last foal she produced being Capdane, destined to become the dam of no less a celebrity than the flying Diomedes.

Then The Angel, by St. Angelo out of Torpoint's dam, aged sixteen, had to atone for two years of barrenness by joining the colours. Last, but not least, Queen of the Lilies (1902), by Martagon out of Queen of the Spring, winner of the Portland Stakes at Doncaster, after having been at the stud eight years without producing living offspring, in 1915 found herself in the ranks. Apparently she was ultimately demobilised, and in gratitude bred her first foal, in 1919, at the age of seventeen, so once more figures as a brood mare in the current volume of the *Stud Book*.



Also, it is certain that very many of the mares vaguely described as "sold," without further details, were absorbed by the army, and it is suggestive that whereas in 1914 ninety-two mares were scheduled under the head of "No return, or "put out of the stud," by 1916 their number had risen to three hundred and fifty-eight, though in course of time a proportion of these mares would be ultimately accounted for.

The war has further left its mark on the pages of the *Stud Book*, as it is noted that Cheritoi was sold at a Red Cross Sale in aid of the funds for the sick and wounded, as were several more in the same good cause.

In this connection, it might well have been thought worthy of special mention in the *Stud Book* that through the generosity of the late Mr. Musker, the peerless Sceptre herself, together with her bay filly foal (Queen Empress) by Glenesky, was sold at the Second July Meeting at Newmarket, in 1917, for the benefit of the same object, being purchased by Lord Glanely for 2,500gs.

Very different, however, was the lot of Lady Toast, who is stated to have been condemned to the terrible life of a boater, or Faithful Lassie (dam of Taffytus), who at the age of twenty-three was disposed of to a jarvey, Wise Molly at nineteen to a cabman, and Philandra to a butcher.

To revert to the earlier volumes, another milestone is passed when it is recorded that Pimento was "killed at Balaclava in 1854," presumably in the Charge of the Light Brigade. It may be interesting to add, though not stated in the *Stud Book*, that the horse Lord Cardigan himself rode when leading that historical charge was Roland, winner of the Wolverhampton Stakes, by The Saddler out of Executrix, thus own brother to the "rare old Inheritress," who ran in ninety-one races, actually winning forty-eight of them.

Amongst these little pieces of extraneous information, though the author expressed the fear that he might be thought too trifling in his remarks, he said he could not forbear "to notice the extraordinary affection shewn by the Godolphin



Arabian to a cat who lived in his stable, which was more particularly manifested by his extreme inquietude on the death of that animal," and adds that he only refers to this circumstance "in order to account for the introduction of a cat in the well-known portrait of the horse." The picture here alluded to is by Stubbs, and was at one time in the collection of the Duke of Grafton.

Lastly, though unfortunately frauds are perhaps inseparable from horse-flesh, only one case of deliberate misrepresentation is to be found throughout the many volumes of the *Stud Book*. A note under the Capsicum mare<sup>1</sup> says that her colt of 1840, Maccabeus (afterwards Zanoni), by Gladiator, ran for the Derby of 1844 under the name of Running Rein,<sup>2</sup> being then four years old. A corresponding note records that the colt foaled in 1841 by The Saddler out of Mab, by Duncan Grey, was the real Running Rein, the four-year-old having been fraudulently substituted for him in the Derby (for which he came in first) and other races. It will be remembered that after some litigation the impostor was disqualified, and the race awarded to Orlando.

It may be of interest to add that "Running Rein," whose name was shortly afterwards changed to Zanoni, and who is elsewhere described as "a horse of great style and beauty," was exported to Russia, covering for two seasons in Moscow, amongst other places, where he was greatly esteemed. The real horse, we believe, mysteriously disappeared.

The tragedies of the *Stud Book* are doubtless innumerable. Perhaps it is as well the veil is so seldom lifted in its pages, or breeders might indeed be discouraged. What could be a greater catastrophe, for instance, than when Lord Sligo sent orders that Peewet, twenty-four years old, was to be destroyed, and his young mare, Peawhistle, was shot instead, through a mistake caused by the similarity of their names.

The mare, Miss Hervey,<sup>3</sup> had bred for her owner thirteen foals, the last one in 1798, but being barren several years

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1. Vol. VI., page 26 (2nd Edition).

2. Page 201.

3. Page 65.

afterwards, she was destroyed, and then found to be in foal to the great Sir Peter. Queen Charlotte "had three colts "prior to 1802, and four subsequent to 1807, all of which came "to untimely deaths." Lord Grosvenor's bay filly by Sovereign out of Plover was born without eyes, but, "being engaged "in several Produce Stakes, was broke with a view of being "trained," and no doubt his lordship's jockey was relieved when she was shot at three years old.

A very curious entry indeed will be found on page 639 in Volume XV., in connection with the stallion, The Rover, by Blair Athol, where it states that he was "murdered in "Ireland in November, 1884." The details of the crime are still fresh in many memories, though, of course, not recorded in the *Stud Book*. The horse was at the time of his death standing at Woodford, in the Knight of Kerry's demense, and was in the possession of one Daniel Shine, a farmer and horse dealer living at Listowel.

In this year St. Gatien, by Rotherhill or The Rover, dead-heated for the Derby and consequently the value of his reputed sire suddenly became greatly enhanced. Shine having become bankrupt, an order was obtained from Judge Miller that his valuable horse, The Rover, should be brought up to Dublin and sold for the benefit of his creditors. The morning after the injunction was obtained, the horse was found dead in his stable, his throat having been cut during the night. Arrests were made, but the perpetrator of the dastardly deed was never discovered, and the affair still remains a mystery, though public opinion pointed out the criminal.

It may further be recorded among these tragedies, that Lord Egremont, who won five Derbys and as many Oaks, had the mare Bugle stolen from his famous paddocks, she being never heard of again, and it is often thought that she may have become the ancestress of some of those wonderful "h-b." horses, whose performances it is so hard to reconcile with their breeding, or rather supposed lack of it.

It is to be fervently hoped that those who contemplate entering into the fascinating pursuit of bloodstock breeding will not be deterred by the black side of the picture, which, we are bound to say, a perusal of these volumes sometimes reveals. The summaries already given shew that the proportion of barren, or otherwise unprofitable, mares closely approaches a third of the whole number annually, and the blanks bear a heavy relation to the prizes in this undertaking. Even if a foal is born, how often the changes and chances of equine life have prevented it ever seeing a racecourse, or even figuring in some humbler sphere.

As we read these pages, we find that foals were sometimes poisoned, or maliciously destroyed, occasionally killed by lightning, bitten by venomous reptiles or mad dogs, gored by bulls, or kicked to death, often drowned, one smothered in snow, and another crippled by frost, now and then born without eyes, feet, tail, or a windpipe, some were stolen from their mother's side, and even if they escaped all these calamities, they very frequently died.

On the other hand, we have for our encouragement the example of such a mare as Queen Esther, by Warlock, who had twenty-two consecutive foals, and twenty-three in all; Florence, by Velocipede, who brought forth twenty living foals in as many years; Maniac, who bred nineteen foals and was never barren; and the famous Queen Mary, who only missed once in her first twenty years at the stud, and lived to the age of twenty-nine.

As regards the produce of mares, there has often been a prejudice against first foals on the score of physique, or their inferiority as racehorses, or possibly both, so much so, that till only quite recently the Jockey Club allowed them to claim an allowance of 3lb. in certain races, a privilege, however, that was soon after withdrawn, though the Irish Turf Club sanctioned it for a few years longer.

But in reality a list of first foals who have distinguished

themselves alike on the turf at the stud would be a long one, and contain the names of many of our greatest celebrities, conveying the impression that no good grounds exist for their supposed inferiority to the later born produce of their dams.

It was mentioned earlier that breeders, rightly enough in most instances, regarded the occurrence of twins as a misfortune, and we hazarded the opinion that if the true facts were known, the average of eight cases in a thousand, as given in the *Stud Book*, would have to be materially increased, as possibly in some cases the information is suppressed in the returns sent in. Even allowing for them having been faithfully rendered, an examination of the Supplements to the *Stud Book* for the past three seasons (1923-24-25) discloses the fact that an average of seventy-two mares have produced twins in each of those years. We learn from the table at the beginning of the current volume that approximately five thousand mares, or rather less, have been covered during each of the three preceding seasons (1922-23-24), consequently these figures shew a ratio of about fourteen mares per thousand giving birth to twins, which is nearly double the official estimate. We ourselves once bought five in-foal mares in one transaction from a well-known breeder in Ireland, and three of them produced twins the following spring to Gallinule, Wildfowler, and Florizel II. respectively, the five mares thus having eight foals between them.

To take a case at random, an examination of the thirty mares comprising the Welbeck Stud some twenty years ago, shews that no fewer than twelve of them bred twins at one time or another. A study of the annual list of foals seems to afford good ground for the supposition that the bearing of twins is somewhat of an hereditary curse, and that, as might almost be expected, a mare who has once had twins is apt to have them again, or that her daughters will produce them in their turn. Princess May, by Atherstone, slipped twins five times in ten years. Bronze, winner of the Oaks, had twins four times, so also did The Song, a half-sister to the

St. Leger winner Ossian, and herself a good mare on the turf ; Ormolu had twins four times in six years ; The Old Lady, by Thuringian Prince, also had four sets of twins, whilst many others have had them three times, a recent example being Underwood, by Tarporley, who had eight foals in five years.

As proof of the decided hereditary tendency of this trait, if one refers to the stud career of the famous mare Enigma, we shall find she bred twins, as did her daughter Arno, and her three grand-daughters Amiable, Gravitation, and Pitti, the latter's surviving twin also having twins her first year at the stud.

It is but seldom a twin horse distinguishes himself, but Nicolo won the Two Thousand Guineas, and got a certain number of winners, as did Trapeze, own brother to Tristan ; but neither made any mark as stallions.

On the other hand, twins have recently attained great celebrity as brood mares, chiefly through the wonderful successes of the twin sisters Lady Bawn and Lady Black, who have between them produced so many winners of the highest class, of which Bachelor's Double is a prominent example. This horse himself got three lots of twins from the twenty-eight mares who foaled to him in 1923, one of them, named Old Fashioned Maid, being a winner last year. Lagos was out of a very shabby little twin mare by Wisdom ; Duet, a twin, bred Double Thrush ; B. Flat, another twin, bred Paul, the winner of the German Derby, to say nothing of nineteen other foals. Harpenden, out of the twin mare Mrs. Jones, won the Peveril of the Peak Plate of £1,000 at Derby, and other good races ; and Gramachree, sister to Birdcatcher, is another instance of a well-known successful twin brood mare, while one of the most recent is Lord St. Davids' Donna Lola, the dam of Dreamy Donna, Stephanola, and Citronade, all winners. Probably a record was created at the Newmarket December Sales of 1925, when Sir Richard Brooke gave a thousand guineas for a twin filly foal, only six months old, by Captain Cuttle out of Verbena, and it was indeed ill



fortune for him that she should have died within a very few weeks of purchase.

It may be noted that the fertility of these twins at the stud does not apparently differ from that of other mares. Fortunately enough, amongst plural births, triplets do not enter into the calculations of breeders of horses, and the *Stud Book*, so far as we are aware, only records one instance, and that in Vol. XXII., when the mare Scintilla, by Sidus, bred by the late Lord Cadogan, is reported to have had in "1909 triplets (dead) by Littleton."

The colours of foals have always been given on the *Stud Book*, and one cannot fail to be struck by the regularity with which divers colours and markings are associated with certain families. Whether or not the colour of the coat bears any relation to the qualities of the individual animal, we must leave to the biologists to determine. But it is at any rate the most apparent outward and visible sign we have of inheritance to descendants. It is often urged that ancestors, remote by several generations, can have no influence on present-day stock. But one may be excused in thinking, when regarding the persistence with which sundry peculiarities of colour and conformation continue to be a characteristic of certain strains, that perhaps a dominant ancestor may have more influence for good or evil than is generally supposed. Shakespeare tells us :

" There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio,

" Than are dreamt of in your philosophy."<sup>1</sup>

and perhaps this aptly applies to the mysteries of horse-breeding.

For instance, the bunch of grey hairs at the root of the tail have been observed in particular lines of blood for approaching two hundred years, and certainly in this case the possession is associated with merit, for it has passed into a proverb that one seldom sees a bad horse with a grey tail, and as a rule it is easy to trace the source from which it has been derived.

Other lessons to be learnt from a study of the colours of

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1. Hamlet, Act. i., Scene v.



foals in the *Stud Book* are that the mating of two chestnut animals invariably results in chestnut produce ; that on the other hand, certain stallions have never got a chestnut, and certain mares have never bred one either, no matter how often they have been crossed with chestnuts. Also that to breed a grey, one of the immediate parents must be itself a grey, though it is no certainty that the union of two greys will produce one. To the above rules there seem no well authenticated exceptions.

Such as do occur, will usually be found to be either errors of description, or capable of explanation if investigated. As examples, Volume XXII. gives the colours of the two Lesterlin mares, Kilkenny Lass and Money Down, as "grey or roan," and "brown or grey" respectively, but we know from our own personal acquaintance of them that both these mares were brown, though the coats of each were freely ticked with the beautiful grey hairs bequeathed to them by their sire, who in turn derived them in an unbroken line from Venison, whose name appears in the sixth generation of his pedigree.

Similarly, Lady Skelton, out of the bay mare Mrs. Skelton, is stated in Vol. XIX. to have been a grey, but this again was but a case of an abundant sprinkling of grey flecks, a heritage from her grey-tailed sire St. Jude, and none of these mares by any stretch of the imagination could be called greys. Perhaps a deliberate mis-statement was made in the case of Cotillon, a bay mare, who, having been barren to Voltaire in 1841, had a grey filly, said to have been by Sheet Anchor (bay), the following year, but, if authentic, it must be regarded as the exception which proves the rule. Of other instances which may be found, the mare Almond, Vol. XIX., page 14, is entered as a grey, though her sire Macaroon was a bay, as also was her dam Lady FitzJames. But in her original entry under her dam's name, it will be found she was not a grey at all, but a bay, which disposes of this supposed departure. Probably a similar mistake was made in the colour of Cutty Sark, a bay mare, who is said to have had a grey colt

in 1827 to the bay horse Champignon. In her case, she had been covered the previous year by Viscount, a grey stallion, and in the following year by Ben Ledi, also a grey, so an error in date could easily have been made, and these are the only exceptions that occur to us, one or two which did appear in more recent volumes having been corrected, on it being found they were wrongly described. Frailty (by St. Frusquin out of All Gay) is stated in the current *Stud Book* to be "black or grey," this being the colour returned for her when a foal, but we saw this mare last summer, she being then in her twenty-first year, and she is still a black, as she has been all her life, though liberally flecked with grey hairs.

An apparent exception to the rule that chestnuts breed true to colour is furnished by the *brown* Hungarian horse Bogdány (1894), sire of Adular, who raced with distinction, and subsequently covered, in this country. Bogdány was bred from parents stated in the Hungarian *Stud Book* to have both been chestnuts, but it is generally agreed that an error has been made, and the horse cannot have been bred as stated. It thus being an axiom that the produce of two chestnuts must be a chestnut, it is curious to find the well-known mare Wet Kiss (dam of Coronach) described as a bay in all three of the latest volumes of the *Stud-book*. She is, of course, a chestnut, like her sire and dam.

Lesterlin (by Gallinule—Miliora) was once cited as an instance of a brown horse being bred from two chestnut parents, the *Stud Book* being quoted in support, and his dam is certainly described as a chestnut in the return made for her when a foal in Vol. XVI. But in this case an error had occurred in the original entry, and in Vol. XIX., page 415, she is duly shewn as a brown.

In view of the success of the stock of The Tetrarch, and his sire Roi Herode, it may be instructive to recall how very nearly, just over a hundred years ago, the grey colour was within an ace of being practically extinguished, and on what a very slender thread its future existence hung.

We find that the grey mare Spinster, sent to Ireland in about 1810, had been bred from grey dams for six generations, the colour being originally inherited from either the Alcock Arabian, or the Brownlow Turk, or from each, as in her grand-dam Bab were united both of these grey strains, with the result that her ten foals were all greys. On the other hand, though Spinster, in her turn, produced many foals, only her first-born was a grey, and had he not been so, greys would have been practically extinct at the present time. This colt, afterwards known as Master Robert (1811), on being mated with the celebrated Sir Walter Raleigh mare, out of Miss Tooley (grand-dam of the immortal Harkaway), got the grey horse Drone, and as he subsequently became a sire of some moment, was thus instrumental in keeping the colour alive. From Drone, and more particularly through his well-known daughter Whim, every thoroughbred grey is now descended, with the exception of a very few, chiefly daughters of Friary, who inherit their colour through a totally different channel, tracing to a grey son of the Brownlow Turk, and every grey derives the colour from either this horse, or the Alcock Arabian.

Till the publication of the Duke of Ancaster's stud book, very little was known of Alcock's Arabian, who alone shares with the three great progenitors of the equine race, the honour of having a Derby winner tracing to him in tail male, his great-great-grandson Aimwell having won that race in 1785. Possibly, with more opportunities, this stallion might have established a male line in perpetuity, if the manner in which his colour survives can be taken as an indication of his innate qualities and prepotency. Our horses are now removed some twenty-one or twenty-two generations from the Alcock Arabian, yet his colour has been persistently handed down in an unbroken line, an obvious token of inheritance in this particular. This horse was acquired by the second Duke of Ancaster in 1722, and apparently died the following year, only getting five foals for the Duke. The date of his importation is unknown.

A table is appended shewing how the grey colour has been handed down without a break to The Tetrarch, from its original source.

THE TETRARCH, grey horse, foaled 1911.

|                |                               |    |    |    |      |
|----------------|-------------------------------|----|----|----|------|
| 1904—His sire, | Roi Herode                    | .. | .. | .. | Grey |
| 1895—His sire, | Le Samaritain                 | .. | .. | .. | Grey |
| 1884—His sire, | Le Sancy                      | .. | .. | .. | Grey |
| 1873—His dam,  | Gem of Gems                   | .. | .. | .. | Grey |
| 1863—Her sire, | Strathconan                   | .. | .. | .. | Grey |
| 1856—His dam,  | Souvenir                      | .. | .. | .. | Grey |
| 1843—Her sire, | Chanticleer                   | .. | .. | .. | Grey |
| 1832—His dam,  | Whim ..                       | .. | .. | .. | Grey |
| 1823—Her sire, | Drone ..                      | .. | .. | .. | Grey |
| 1817—His sire, | Master Robert                 | .. | .. | .. | Grey |
| 1805—His dam,  | Spinster                      | .. | .. | .. | Grey |
| 1797—Her dam,  | Sir Peter mare                | .. | .. | .. | Grey |
| 1787—Her dam,  | Bab ..                        | .. | .. | .. | Grey |
| 1778—Her dam,  | Speranza                      | .. | .. | .. | Grey |
| 1764—Her dam,  | Virago ..                     | .. | .. | .. | Grey |
| 1757—Her dam,  | Regulus mare                  | .. | .. | .. | Grey |
| 1750—Her dam,  | sister to Black and All Black |    |    | .. | Grey |
| 1722—Her sire, | Crab ..                       | .. | .. | .. | Grey |

His sire, the Alcock Arabian, who was also known as Mr. Pelham's Grey Arab, and was afterwards the property of the Duke of Ancaster.

It is remarkable that though the colour is constant, never missing a generation and then re-appearing, it is derived indiscriminately either in the male or female line, thus confirming the rule that one or both parents must be a grey in order to produce a grey.

The fact that this colour cannot be inherited unless one or other of the actual parents are grey, accounts for the number of greys being, of late years, so reduced compared with a hundred years ago, when, as the old *Calendars* shew, they were very plentiful on our racecourses. In the early days of the St. Leger, for instance, it is noticeable how many of the runners were grey. At Carlisle, in 1732, the six starters for a particular race were all greys, and at Hambleton one year the first four were greys, as were six others of the twenty starters for the Mares' Plate.

At the beginning of the present century, the grey colour in thoroughbred horses once more seemed likely to disappear. The only grey stallions of any note that were then available, were Grey Leg (who had begun life as a hunter sire, and was actually awarded a Queen's Premium as such at Islington), and the steeplechase horse Friary.

Volume XIX. of the *Stud Book*, current at that day, only contained twenty-eight brood mares of the colour, none of whom left any son to carry on their line, and only a few of them had grey daughters to be put to the stud. It is probable that but for the timely importation of Roi Hérode, in 1910, the success of whose stock greatly assisted to popularise the colour, there would be very few grey brood mares now left.

His advent, however, brought about a rapid change, and the greys speedily multiplied, there being at the present time considerably more grey daughters of this one horse now at the stud, than the entire number of grey brood mares in the United Kingdom at the date to which reference is made.

As examples of mares breeding true to colour, one may mention Mr. Garforth's famous mare Vesta (1891), who bred thirteen grey foals in succession to nine different sires; Barrosa (1808), who bred sixteen bays or browns, when mated with eight horses of varying colours; and Persepolis (1803), all of whose fifteen foals were chestnuts, but as she was usually mated with the chestnut horse Quiz, they could be of no other colour, and the ten she had by this sire between them won sixty-six races, value £10,396, a very large sum in those days.

It may be noticed that all the cases quoted above date from over a hundred years ago, but it is readily accounted for by the fact that, whereas in the earlier volumes it is usually possible to see the whole of a mare's produce at one reference, necessity now compels the return to be given piecemeal, and thus with a mare's record spread over several volumes, such details are no longer apparent at a glance, and entail considerable research.



Whether or no it is expedient to send a mare to the same sire year after year, must be left to the experience of individual breeders, but it may be noted that apart from the case of Persepolis referred to above, Mustard (1824) by Merlin, out of Morel, was covered during seventeen consecutive seasons by Emilius, to whom she produced fourteen foals, among which were Mango, winner of the St. Leger; Preserve, winner of the One Thousand Guineas, and ancestress of Spearmint, Speculum, etc.; and also Mangosteen, the grand-dam of Distin.

A few instances occur of mares producing foals of only one sex, a notable example being Lord Rosebery's well-known mare Montem, by Ladas, all of whose twelve produce were fillies, and her daughters seem disposed to follow her example, though not quite so exclusively.

Other mares are frequently to be met with whose colts win races, while their fillies are worthless, and *vice-versa*, a circumstance highly interesting to the biologist.

As to the earliest age at which thoroughbred mares have been put to the stud, certainly three instances are recorded in which they have been covered as yearlings, and though possibly a mistake may have been made in the case of one entry, the other two appear to be perfectly well authenticated.

A reference to Volume VI. will shew that Lord George Bentinck sent the filly by Bay Middleton out of Miss Craven to Venison before she was quite twelve months old, and from the "Experiment" thus made she took her name. A note appended to her entry states that "she produced a fine colt, which was healthy and perfectly formed, but lived only twenty-four hours; the mare did remarkably well and had plenty of milk." The occurrence was considered sufficiently remarkable to warrant the very unusual insertion of such full details as given above, and the obvious inference is that it was regarded by Mr. Weatherby as a unique case, demanding special mention.

One of the other instances alluded to will be found in

Volume IV., and is that of the unnamed Eaton mare, bred by Mr. Neville in 1817, and who is stated to have produced a bay colt to King Richard in 1819. If this entry can be relied on as correct, it would furnish another example of a filly covered as a yearling, and who foaled at the age of two years.

As this Eaton mare, whatever her age may have been when first covered, became a very successful brood mare, producing amongst other winners, the well-known filly Iliona, by Priam, who won the Cesarewitch for Lord Palmerston, it is probable her extreme youth, when put to the stud, would have been commented on by turf writers at the time, but we have failed to find any allusion to it. Neither, it may be remarked, did Mr. Weatherby draw any attention to the circumstance, as he did some twenty years later in the case of the filly Experiment.

Another of the Eaton mare's produce was the black horse Galopade, who was popularly said to have been shod with gold cups, as he won no less than four, including the one at Doncaster, so she was a particularly well-known mare. It may be mentioned that Galopade was subsequently exported to Hungary, and certainly the late Count Lehndorff, with his unrivalled knowledge of the *General Stud Book*, did not cite his dam as an instance of a successful brood mare starting her career as a yearling, though he alludes to others who were put to the stud when two-year-olds, as examples of early mating of thoroughbred stock.

From this evidence one is inclined to think that an error must have been made in this mare's date of birth, and that she probably was covered at two years of age, rather than as a yearling. A reference to the entry of her dam (Vol. II., pages 350-1) tends to confirm this assumption, for she is returned as having had a chestnut filly by Eaton in 1816, but no mention is made of her record for 1817 or 1818, though it gives her produce for both the preceding and following three years; neither is the name of her breeder given, nor the year of her birth, so the return was evidently incomplete.

Therefore, though the Eaton mare may be correctly entered as born in 1817 and foaling in 1819, it seems more likely that a mistake of a year may have been made in her date, and that she was in fact the filly foaled in 1816, and not an own sister, said to have been born the next year.

There, however, appears to be no room for doubt as to the last, and most recent, example of breeding from a yearling. In 1892 Mr. H. Wenman put his yearling filly Primrose Isonomy (Vol. XVIII., page 501) to her half-brother, a two-year-old colt named Cannon Ball, to whom she proved barren. The mating was repeated the following season, and this time resulted in a bay colt, but he was never named, and does not appear to have run.

Of other celebrated young brood mares in the *Stud Book*, two who were, singularly enough, both got by Plenipotentary, stand out by themselves. The first, Monstrosity (also bred by Lord George) was covered at two years old by Venison, and to him bred, when three years old, that good horse The Ugly Buck, winner of the Two Thousand Guineas, Molecomb Stakes, and other races.

The other, an unnamed mare out of Myrrha by Whalebone, produced when a three-year-old the famous Queen Mary, who only started once, having met with an accident when running at Chester as a two-year-old. She was accordingly covered when three years of age, and bred her first foal (Haricot) at four years, and her nineteenth living one (Bonnie Doon) at twenty-seven, this being her fifteenth winner.

That breeding from immature stock does not adversely affect their productivity in later life, is further illustrated by the record of Miss Gunpowder (Vol. II., p. 230-1), who had her first foal at the age of three, bred fourteen more without a break, and five others afterwards, and even then her return may not be complete, as the year of her death is not given.

It would appear that some very distinguished brood mares are possessed of an extra store of vital power, enabling them to

continue to breed good stock at a more advanced age than the ordinary run of mares, the racing merit of whose foals certainly tends to decrease with age, as is only to be expected. Pocahontas bred her last foal (*Araucaria*) at twenty-five years, which latter was not only a winner herself, but became the dam of *Camelia*, winner of the Oaks; *Chamant*, winner of the Middle Park Plate and Two Thousand Guineas; and *Rayon d'Or*, winner of the St. Leger, beside other celebrities. At the present time, it is possible that a similar success may be achieved by Lord D'Abernon's *Donnetta*, who, though she died last year at the age of twenty-five, left a colt foal by *Grand Parade*, own brother to *Diophon*, winner of over £23,000, and *Donnina* (as yet only a three-year-old, who won the Suffolk Nursery of £1,000 last October), these being her produce at the age of twenty-one and twenty-three respectively. It may also be mentioned that the dam of Lord Astor's good filly *Concertina* (winner of £5,473) was twenty-five years old at the time of her birth.

No separate obituary of mares has ever appeared in the *Stud Book*, and any statistics on this subject are necessarily inconclusive for the reason that, while a very few owners permit their old mares to live practically as long as nature intended, as a general rule they have been destroyed when it was found they were no longer capable of breeding good stock, and consequently the age when they died is very often the age when they became unprofitable.

Of authenticated cases, *Pocahontas* is, as far as we know, the longest-lived brood mare recorded, she having died at Lord Exeter's paddocks, at Burghley Park, Stamford, in 1870, when thirty-three years old. *Puzzle*, one of the Duke of Grafton's famous "P" family, was destroyed in December, 1810, within a few days of being thirty-three, after having been barren for seven years, especial attention being directed to her "great age." *Cecropia*, the well-known Irish mare, bred her last foal at twenty-six, and died at thirty-two, the same age as *Tom Tom*, by *Kettledrum*.

The Duke of Portland's Mowerina, whose produce won over £83,000 in stakes, was destroyed at the age of thirty; Signorina, who dropped dead so recently as December, 1916, was within a fortnight of the same age; Queen Mary, as we have seen, bred at twenty-seven, and died two years later; Platina, winner of the Oaks, also bred at twenty-seven, having only been barren twice in twenty-one years; Violet Melrose (Melton's dam) died at twenty-nine; Bribery (the dam of St. Albans) bred at twenty-five and died at twenty-eight; Lily Agnes (Ormonde's dam) lived to the same age, Sceptre to twenty-seven, Vampire to twenty-six, and Galicia to twenty-five, though these had all been unproductive for some years previous to their death; and many other examples could be named shewing the longevity of famous mares.

In this connection, the remarkable instance of the unfortunate Miss Hervey may be recalled. This mare, the dam of Haphazard, and grand-dam of Sir Joshua, was bred by the famous O'Kelly in 1775, being got by Eclipse, and is recorded in Vol. II., p. 234, to have been destroyed in 1804, when supposed to be barren, but was afterwards found to have been in-foal to Sir Peter, though she had apparently not had produce for some six years previously. Mr. George Baker, however, particularly noted in his copy of the *Stud Book* that she was "shot in the winter of 1805-6, when nearly thirty-one years old," and presumably the statement as to her having been in-foal at the time applies to this year, thus probably making her the oldest producing matron to be found in the *Stud Book*, with the possible exception of the Tartar mare, referred to hereafter.

Yet another long-lived daughter of Eclipse, and also of O'Kelly's breeding, is the one foaled in 1775, described in the revised edition (Vol. I., p. 256) as a "small mare," who bred her sixteenth foal at the age of twenty-eight, and was shot the following year.

Amongst the first entries of the Irish mares (Vol. III., pages 514-15), we find it stated that Young Lalage bred Mr.



Blake's De Vere, by Feramorz, in 1824, "and died the following "year, aged thirty-one," but the particulars there given lack corroboration of both date and breeder's name, and in a much more complete return of her, in the third edition of this volume, published in 1855, we find that she was foaled in 1797, so would have been twenty-seven years old, and not thirty, when De Vere was born.

In Volume XVII., p. 97, it is certainly quoted, on the authority of the Victorian *Stud Book*, that the exported Driver mare (foaled 1801) bred Moss Rose in 1834, when thirty-three years old, but the records were undoubtedly compiled at a very much later date, and in lack of some proof, we venture to doubt the accuracy of this entry.

Some confirmation of such a case may nevertheless be found in the original volume of the *Stud Book*, where it is shewn that the famous (Old) Tartar mare, already mentioned, was born in 1749, and produced her last foal in 1785, when she would be thirty-six years old, the actual year of her death not being given. In the issue of 1808, however, Mr. Weatherby, in repeating her entry, now omitted the date of her birth, and appended to her return a note to the effect that :—

It has often been asserted that the above Tartar Mare foaled Queen Mab at the age of thirty-six, but we are of opinion that this is rendered more than doubtful by the circumstance of Tartar's having been in training in 1748 and 1749, and of there being no record of any other of his get foaled so early by several years, or of his having covered before he was finally put out of training.

This statement is somewhat unaccountable, as Mr. Weatherby seems to have entirely overlooked that he had actually entered two mares by Tartar in this very volume, as being foaled in 1751, shewing that the horse was at the stud the previous year. Moreover, the *Racing Calendar* of 1751 contains the advertisement :—

"The famous strong Chestnut Horse, TARTAR, will cover at two Guineas, and two Shillings the Man, at Mr. *Anthony Smith's*, at *Oulston*, near *Easingwold*, *Yorkshire*. Tartar is near fifteen hands high."

In the revised edition of 1891, the Editors had discovered

the existence of these two other Tartar mares, but they did not amend the original footnote, and let it stand, merely making the following addition to it, which seems a direct contradiction of both points raised in the first part :—

He [Tartar] covered in 1750 the dams of Mary Tartar and Fanny, though he won a Plate at Newmarket that year.

This mare was probably foaled in 1757 or '58, as Mr. Leedes put several mares to Tartar in '56 and '57.

Be this fact as it may, it is quite possible that the mare was born rather earlier than surmised as above, and it is beyond question that she bred up to a very advanced age.

Why there should ever have been any uncertainty as to the exact date of this Tartar mare, is not easy of explanation. She was bred by Mr. Edward Leedes, of North Milford, Yorks, the owner of perhaps the best known stud of that day, who also bred her sire, and he surely would have kept authentic records of his mares. Furthermore, she was actually at the stud during the lifetime of Pick, the turf historian, who put her approximate date of birth at 1751, giving a long and circumstantial account of her career, stating that she had been bred by the Duke of Bolton, and at his death acquired by Peter Hammond, whom from other sources we learn was his Grace's stud groom ; and the mare had only been dead four years when Mr. Weatherby brought out his first *Stud Book*. So her history must have been fresh in the minds of many people, and was not obscured in the mists of tradition.

It is certain that she was purchased by Colonel Dennis O'Kelly, the owner of Eclipse, to whom she proved a veritable gold mine, and from the original memorandum we have had before us, written by either O'Kelly's brother or nephew, and reproduced by Sir Theodore Cook in his monumental book, "*Eclipse and O'Kelly*," we find a list of her produce, with the names of their purchasers, and the prices they realised. The note ends,

Queen Mab was the last foal the Old Tartar mare ever had, produced when she was 36 years of age, and she lived two years afterwards, and died at Cannons in 1787.

(Cannons, Middlesex, was the seat of O'Kelly, who died on December 28th, the same year as the mare.)

O'Kelly must have had some idea as to how old the mare was when he bought her, whatever may have been the exact date of the purchase, and he certainly owned her first produce, Whitenose, by Snip (foaled according to the *Stud Book* in 1763, but it is evident he was foaled in 1764), so O'Kelly had a very long acquaintanceship of the mare.

To his horse Eclipse, the mare bred ten chestnut foals between 1772 and 1785, amongst them being such notable horses at Jupiter, Mercury, and Volunteer, and her very last, Queen Mab, born even on the later Editors' shewing, when her dam must have been twenty-seven or twenty-eight years old (even if we reject the O'Kelly memorandum altogether), likewise proved one of the celebrities of the *Stud Book*.

Queen Mab, after O'Kelly's death, was sold at Tattersalls' in 1788, to Lord Strathmore, and being sent to his seat, Streatlam Park, co. Durham, subsequently became the foundation mare of the famous Bowes stud, then resuscitated after apparently a long period of inactivity.

It may be recalled that, rather less than a hundred years earlier, another Streatlam mare, owned by the Mr. Bowes of that day, and only known to us as the dam of the two True Blues (an uncertainty existing as to her exact pedigree), was destined to become possibly the most renowned mare in the whole *Stud Book*, and as the ancestress of the No. 3 family, has left an imperishable name behind her.

Amongst Queen Mab's many winners, her son Remembrancer won the St. Leger of 1803, and from her daughter Remembrance came the future Derby winner Daniel O'Rourke, and in recent days Dark Ronald; whilst her own brother Mercury was the paternal grandsire of Gibside Fairy, the dam of Emma, who bred two Derby winners in Mundig and Cotherstone, and was the grand-dam of West Australian, the first horse to win the three great classic races.

Surely the pages of the *Stud Book* cannot furnish a parallel to the Tartar mare, and the daughter of her extreme old age, who, if she did not last quite so long as her mother, lived, according to the Mr. Weatherby to 1812, or, if we may rely on the account of her given in Johnson's continuation of *Pick's Turf Register* (Vol. IV., page 393), to March, 1813, thus being either twenty-seven or twenty-eight years old.

It should not be overlooked that there is certainly an instance recorded in the *Stud Book* of a thirty-three-year-old mare breeding a foal, it being shewn (Vol. I., 5th edition, page 95) that the "Grasshopper (Bristol) mare (ran as Look at Me Lads)" was born in 1731, did not have any produce till she was twenty, and then to have bred twelve foals in the last fourteen years of her life, which statement, on the face of it, appears highly improbable, and from authentic information now available, can be proved to be impossible.

It is suggestive that Mr. Weatherby was evidently not quite satisfied with the entry of this mare in the issue of 1793, where both her name (Look at Me Lads) and date (1731) were given; for in the volume of 1808 he eliminated both these particulars, and she was merely shewn as the Grasshopper mare. In the revised edition of 1891, quoted from above, however, the editors restored her name and date, and for the first time stated that the mare was got by the *Bristol Grasshopper*, but made no comment on her seemingly remarkable stud career, or hinted that any error might have occurred as to her age, having been apparently guided by the *Racing Calendar*, which certainly shews that the Duke of Ancaster's Look at Me Lads ran as a five-year-old in 1736. From the Duke's contemporary MSS. *Stud Book* (1719-1737) kindly lent by the present Lord Ancaster, which by his permission we have since reproduced in full in "*Early Records of the Thoroughbred Horse*," it can, however, be demonstrated that the mare whose produce is given in the *General Stud Book* under the above heading, was not got by the *Bristol Grasshopper* (who would have been thirty-six years old at the time his supposed

daughter was born), but by the Duke of Ancaster's own horse of the same name, who was himself foaled in 1731, and that though she was very probably known as Look at Me Lads in the Duke's stud (it being a frequent custom there for a filly to be called after her dam), she was not the mare who ran under that name, but a daughter, foaled some ten or more years afterwards.

Hence the produce from 1751 to 1764, recorded on page 95 of the revised edition of Vol. I., were not the offspring of a mare foaled in 1731, but of one foaled about 1741, or even later, and in view of this fact, her stud return presents no unusual features.

The correct pedigree of the mare in question, collated from the Duke's stud book, reads as follows :—

Chestnut Mare, probably called Young Look at Me Lads, bred by the Duke of Ancaster in 174-, got by Ancaster Grasshopper (son of Panton's Crab), out of Look at Me Lads (chestnut, 1731) by Sir Michael Newton's Bay Arabian, out of (Young) Lady Mare (Chestnut) by Old Pert (son of Champion), her dam (Old) Lady Mare by St. Martin, out of the Oldfield Mare, who was got by Sir Edward Hale's Bay Turk.

As Young Look at Me Lads is the maternal ancestress of Touchstone, and other famous members of the No. XIV. Family, the correction is important, and it is curious that the error should have so long remained undetected. It is obvious that a mare foaled in 1731, would not have had her first foal twenty years later, and continued breeding every year until she was thirty-four, as shewn in the *General Stud Book*, and the information gained from the Duke's book is further valuable in correcting some few inaccuracies in the pedigree, particularly as regards the Oldfield Mare.

The substitution of the Bristol Grasshopper for the Ancaster Grasshopper, in the revised version, as the sire of this mare, could scarcely have occurred had Messrs. Weatherby been aware of the year of birth of the former, but no information on this point is afforded by the *Stud Book*, and it is only through the kindness of Lord Bristol, who has been good



enough to lend us the diary of his ancestor, John Hervey, the great racing man (afterwards created first Earl of Bristol), that the date of Grasshopper can be satisfactorily established.

The following entry will be found in the diary for August 6, 1701 :—

Dear wife and I went to Nottingham to see ye Plates run for. Sir William Lowther's grey Mustard won ye Gentlemen's at 12 stone that day, and ye next Lord Roos' Grasshopper won ye Town Plate at 10 stone weight,

the latter horse being subsequently bought by the future Lord Bristol.

Before leaving the subject of a mare having her first produce very late in life,<sup>1</sup> reference may be made to the entry of Catherina (Vol. VIII., p. 44). This mare was foaled in 1830, and after winning seventy-nine of the one hundred and seventy-six races for which she started, was put to the stud in 1845, breeding her first foal at the age of sixteen, and her ninth at twenty-seven, and was shot the following year. This hard-worked mare descended from an own sister to Diomed (1777), the first winner of the Derby, who was exported to Virginia, according to the *Stud Book*, "at the age of "twenty-two, where he covered a great number of mares, and "died in 1808."

Other instances are Sir Tatton Sykes' Anna Maria (1805), whom he hunted up to the age of eighteen, when she produced her first foal (a dead colt by Juniper), and also Naiad, who, born in 1812, "had no foal prior to 1830."

The question of the names of thoroughbred stock has from an early date occupied the attention of the Editors, who, as we have seen in Vol. X., drew attention to the obvious disadvantages of a nameless stud, such as then existed—and had for many years previously—at Sledmere. In that extensive establishment, generations of mares, whether they were by Camillus, Comus, Pyrrhus the First, Rifleman, or Sleight of Hand, had rarely borne any distinguishing names, and at the three days' dispersal sale, in September, 1863, on the death of

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1. *c. f.* Boadicea, p. 45, and Queen of the Lilies, p. 48.

the elder Sir Tatton Sykes, the three hundred and nine lots in the catalogue were all unnamed, with the single exception of the mare Algebra, the dam of Lecturer. Lord Glasgow also was notorious as another breeder averse to naming his stock, and great was the confusion which arose between his various brothers and sisters to Bird on the Wing, Rapid Rhone, and Strafford.

Even at the present day one has constantly to discriminate amongst many unnamed daughters and granddaughters of his lordship's celebrated mare, Maid of Masham, whilst his equally famous Brown Bess had three nameless fillies, by Orlando, West Australian, and Young Melbourne respectively, each of whom became distinguished brood mares. A very remarkable illustration is afforded by the pedigree of Lord Dunraven's Carpentia (1912), by Polymelus out of Combine, by Carbine, who only ran three times, winning twice, and was fourth in the Manchester Foal Stakes of £1,000, as all three of these unnamed daughters of Brown Bess figure in her pedigree, through Musket and Knowsley (sire and <sup>m</sup>paternal grandsire of Carbine), and Quiver, the grandam of Polymelus.

Equally troublesome was the duplication of names, everyone till recent times being free to do as they liked in this respect, and in the case of stallions, as the Editors themselves on one occasion remarked, "It not unfrequently happens that horses, not widely separated in point of date, have had the same names, and when they occur in pedigrees, they are not easily distinguished even by persons who are generally conversant with the subject."

The two King Johns, father and son, only foaled ten years apart, form a leading case of everyday perplexity, the older horse being the ancestor of such well-known animals as Avington, Lesterlin, and White Magic, while the younger is great-grand-sire of Velocity and The White Knight; consequently the two are continually transposed in pedigrees of their descendants.

As other examples, we may quote the constant difficulties

caused by there being two sons of Stockwell, foaled in successive years, each bearing the name of Uncas; by the two Torpedos, sons of Gunboat and Hermit respectively, whose births were only four years apart; the two Umpires, and two sons of Robert the Devil, both called Dare Devil, at the stud at the same time, to say nothing of three Marquises, and as many Barons, all appearing in present-day pedigrees; amongst fully fifty other similar instances of which we have knowledge.

To mention a recent case, one observes that Jingling Geordie's grand-dam was by Burnaby, though this is far from being the well-known Hagioscope horse of that name, but a comparatively unknown son of Queen's Messenger, foaled five years earlier.

Contrariwise, in the tabulated pedigrees of Sparus, reproduced during the past year on more than one occasion, we note that the aforesaid Queen's Messenger horse has been shewn as the sire of his great-grand-dam Highland Beauty, whereas in this case, Burnaby by Hagioscope was her rightful sire.

The remedy for this unsatisfactory state of things was of very slow growth, but at last the Editors have effectually dealt with the difficulty. The first step taken, as we have seen,<sup>1</sup> was the rule that no name could be duplicated without the addition of a numeral; finally, the Jockey Club ordered that for the future the names of certain very celebrated animals,<sup>2</sup> including all winners of classic races, were to be canonised, and must never be used again. Other names previously employed could only be repeated after a lapse of years which would make confusion between individuals impossible, and for the guidance of owners, Messrs. Weatherby now publish twice a year a list of names in use, and which accordingly are not available for the time being.

The possession of this list relieves one of much disappointment, which was heretofore of daily occurrence, on being informed that the brilliant inspiration for a name, which had

1. Page 33.

2. Page 254.

flashed across one's mind, had been already appropriated.

A further reform<sup>1</sup> decreed that no unnamed animal should run under Jockey Club Rules after the age of two years, this much latitude being allowed so that good names should not be wasted on unworthy recipients.

On the actual names bestowed in the *Stud Book* it is not necessary to enlarge here, more than to observe that a study of them shows a range between extreme erudition and idiocy, between aptness and the reverse, and between good and bad taste, though, fortunately, examples of the latter are now in a very decided minority. Certainly some of the names met with in the earlier volumes would not be permitted at the present time, though it is a matter of regret many of those now in use are utterly meaningless, and in these days of universal officialdom it is unfortunate that they are not subjected to a Censor, who would surely look with disfavour on those made up of a syllable from the names of sire and dam, as for instance Cylgad, Achtoi, *cum multis aliis*. Occasionally, too, he would be useful in correcting the orthography of certain owners, and such names as "Mysotis" (sister to Strathconan), and "Agusta" (dam of Roman Bachelor), would no longer figure in the indexes.

It may be noticed that in the earlier volumes of the *Stud Book* a certain flippancy was occasionally indulged in which would have not met with the approval of the Editors of a later day. Thus in Volume II., page 85, we find the sire of Miss Tooley (Harkaway's grand-dam) is abbreviated to "Teddy," though a reference to the third volume shews him with his full name of Teddy the Grinder; much in the same way as the famous jockey, Elnathan Flatman, is usually entered merely as "Nat" in the official *Racing Calendars* of his time.

The well-known Irish sire, Philip the First, similarly figures as "Philip," and it will be remembered that Herod himself was only so called in after years, as his original name was King Herod; likewise Lord Derby's great horse, Sir

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1. Page 255.

Peter, should have come down to us as Sir Peter Teazle, but his surname was apparently dispensed with at a very early date, as the index to the 1808 edition of Volume I. adds, "more commonly called Sir Peter," after his entry, and it is only by this name that he is known to us.

#### THE REVISED EDITION OF VOL. I.

We must now revert to the fifth and revised edition of the first volume, published in 1891, to which invaluable work, as remarked earlier, especial attention must be directed, as the information contained therein is indispensable to all who desire to become acquainted with the history of the racehorse. The whole book has been very carefully corrected, and many pedigrees which were incomplete, or inaccurate, in the earlier issues, have been perfected, or, where necessary, expunged, from materials which had been collected during the past eighty years by succeeding Editors.

It is interesting to observe that a portion of the text had been compared with some old manuscripts relating to the studs which, in early days, had been kept at Welbeck and Lowther, and it must have been gratifying to the Editors to find that they corroborated, rather than corrected, the information supplied in the original volumes. The Welbeck pedigree book, which by the kindness of the Duke of Portland has been lent to us for examination, is entirely in the hand of the third Duke, who compiled it in 1776, and is a surprisingly accurate list of pedigrees of the principal horses of his day, testifying to his zeal and research.

A number of manuscripts recently discovered at Welbeck, dealing with the stud maintained there by the Dukes of Newcastle, and the importation of various Arabian horses, also lent to us at the same time, have been reproduced in a separate volume.<sup>1</sup> The Lowther papers have been destroyed by fire, so the "Lowther Book of Studd," mentioned by Mr. Cuthbert Routh, is now no longer available, to the regret of Lord Lonsdale.

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1. *Early Records of the Thoroughbred Horse.*



This revised edition is divided into four parts, the first containing the names of seventy-eight of the earliest known brood mares, many of them being printed as such for the first time, and from which, with but very few exceptions, the whole of our present stock are descended. Very many of these mares, however, have now no representatives in the female line, and, as previously stated, only a few of them, say twenty-five, are greatly concerned in the pedigrees of the race-horses of to-day.

This section of the earliest known mares does not include the ancestress of the celebrated "Agnes Family," which is of comparatively modern standing, the first mare of the line to be entered in the *Stud Book*, being the Young Marske Mare, who was foaled in about 1785, and whose pedigree cannot be traced beyond her grand-dam, the Sister to Stripling by Hutton's Spot. We venture to surmise, however, that should Mr. Hutton's missing stud book ever be discovered, it will be found that so far from this family only dating from about 1750, it may prove to be one of the oldest, originating from D'Arcy blood; Mr. Hutton being a close neighbour and intimate friend of James D'Arcy, and they were known to have had mutual transactions as regards their studs.

The brilliant performances of such horses as Shogun and Irish Elegance, who are not in the *General Stud Book*, have caused an outcry to be raised in certain quarters for their admittance on the score of their great racing merit, and one naturally regrets their exclusion from its pages. But it must be remembered that the *Stud Book* is a history of pure-bred animals, not a record of performers on the racecourse; and if the Editors once allowed themselves to deviate from their set plan, they would open the book to pedigrees of uncertain descent, and the thin edge of the wedge being inserted, it would be found impossible to draw the line, once the principle was departed from that long ancestry, rather than performance, should constitute qualification for entry.

The very small number of mares from which thoroughbred stock of the present day are derived is exemplified in the above-mentioned section, and this knowledge led the late Mr. Bruce Lowe to publish his well-known work, which was somewhat unfortunately termed the "Figure System." The title conveyed the impression to many breeders that a ready way had been found to the winning post by means of arithmetic, and when it was discovered that such was not the case, disappointment inevitably followed, and consequently his book of late years has not received the attention it deserves, even though some of the theoretical part of his work advances views which are both unsound and untenable, causing it in a great measure to be wholly discredited. The idea, however, of distinguishing by means of a number, for the purposes of identification, the taproots of these few existing families, was as useful as it was novel, and merits the approval of every breeder of bloodstock who cares to ascertain the back pedigree of his mares.

If one regards the family number merely in the light of a surname, which is one of the purposes it serves, a figured pedigree shews at a glance not only the source from which an animal is derived, but also any relationship existing between the various ancestors, which often could not otherwise be ascertained without an infinity of search, and if for this reason only, Mr. Bruce Lowe's method deserves well of breeders.

For example, if an examination be made of a figured pedigree of the Cambridgeshire winner Adam Bede, tabulated to five generations, it will be found that eight crosses of the No. 3 Family are shewn, and while two of these are attributable to Galopin, the whole of the remaining six are represented by the sons and daughters of Pocahontas, through five different channels, but as her actual name only appears once in the five removes, the inbreeding to her would not be readily apparent, but for the frequent recurrence of her family number, 3.

It would be interesting, for instance, if the seventy-eight

original mares, which comprise the first section in this revised edition of Volume I. of the *General Stud Book*, were marked with a figure, to shew which of them are descended from a common source, and in no so ready way could the relationship which exists between certain of these mares be illustrated, as at present no indication is afforded to this end, and can only be determined by individual research. So far as can be ascertained, these seventy-eight mares are, in fact, derived from but forty-nine foundation mares, seven of them tracing to the Old Morocco Mare, and others having two or more representatives, thus unnecessarily multiplying the families. Even these are probably in excess of the actual number, as from the recently published Welbeck papers, it is clear that the "Black-legged Royal Mare" (tap-root of No. 7 Family) of Lord Darcy's, is of the same breed as either Grey Royal (No. 13) or Grey Wilkes (No. XI.), supposing these to be distinct strains, though it is more than probable that all three were identical.

The convenience of writing a figure to designate the original mares, thus avoiding the necessity of repeating their names in every instance, is obvious, and unless numerals were employed, the information could scarcely be given in a tabulated pedigree for reasons of space. Had the formula of distinguishing these taproots by means of a number been thought of previously to the publication of this revised version, it would have been simplicity itself to have thus marked the mares in this (1891) and succeeding issues, and, in fact, some breeders have done so with the pen, for their own edification, since this method of identification was first suggested by Mr. Bruce Lowe.

Without entering into the debatable question as to what, if any, influence these original mares can have on their descendants at the present day, removed from them by the space of some two hundred years, the extraordinary numerical difference which exists between the representatives of the various families is most instructive, shewing the progress, or otherwise, made by them during that period.

There will be found about forty families represented in the current volume of the *Stud Book*, which, as the summary shews, accounts for nearly 6,000 mares. But Families 1 to 5 of the Bruce Lowe notation would themselves claim some half of the entire number of mares, while certain other families possess a great many members, others have but very few, and some are all but threatened with extinction. The only possible explanation of this singular rise and fall of different lines is that certain original mares must have been more prepotent than others, and that by reason of sheer merit and fruitfulness they have been able to exercise an undying influence on our breed of racehorses, even if due allowance is made for the accident of environment.

Consequently it is of practical service that breeders should acquaint themselves with the sources from which their mares are derived, and it must be more than a coincidence that a reference to this revised version shews the tap-roots of certainly four, and possibly five, of Families 1 to 6 to have been pure-bred Barbs, and the original mare of the remaining family was by a Barb stallion.

That breeders recognised more than a century ago the outstanding value of a few particular mares as tap-roots is well illustrated by a memorandum left by Mr. George Baker (1754-1837), the well-known gentleman rider, M.F.H., and M.P. for Durham County, to whose intimate knowledge of pedigrees allusion has already been made. We have before us one of Mr. Baker's private manuscript books, on the title page of which he has written, under date 1807: "THE SIR PETER KIND, COMPARED WITH OTHER BLOOD AND THEIR PRODUCE." Mr. Baker had set out at length the pedigrees and performances of those which he considered the best mares of his time, noted his opinion of their stock, and finally summarised the result of his investigation as follows:—

Upon a survey of both stallions and mares, it is evident that no sort but Coates' mare [Lass of the Mill] save the Sir Peter kind have continued to breed racers. It appears from 1741 to 1807 more good

racers, stallions, and brood mares have descended from the dam of the two True Blues than from any other brood mare in the Stud Book ; for contrast see Mr. Pratt's Squirt mare, Cypron [dam of King Herod] Prosperina [sister to Eclipse], Fenwick's Duchess, Promise [dam of Prunella], etc.

Sir Peter himself, of course, descended from the dam of the two True Blues, the tap-root of the No. 3 Family, and Lass of the Mill ("Coates' Mare") came from the Burton Barb Mare, the original source of the No. 2 Family. This contemporary opinion of one well qualified to judge is instructive, and though more than a hundred years have passed, those which were then the two most successful strains are still the foremost to-day, and afford eloquent testimony to the value of mares of this blood, even if Mr. Baker's deductions were of somewhat too sweeping a nature.

A singular circumstance remains to be noted with reference to the mares which form the first section of the revised edition, and which has hitherto apparently escaped notice. It might have been expected that these mares, the foundation stock of the whole race, would have been distributed all over England—at any rate in those counties in which the breeding of horses was commonly followed. But as a matter of fact, almost without exception, the whole of these seventy-eight mares were domiciled in Yorkshire, and generally, moreover, in a very small area of that county, of which Bedale was more or less the centre point. The exceptions are but four or five, and of them, the studs of the Dukes of Rutland and Ancaster, in the adjoining county of Lincolnshire, claim three, the Duke of Devonshire one, in Derbyshire, and the mare that was once Queen Anne's, at Hampton Court, evidently had been moved to Yorkshire, as it is noted that her produce were bred by Sir Ralph Milbanke, at Halnaby.

Consequently, the thoroughbred horse may be considered mainly a product of the northern counties, and accounts for the supremacy of those from the North, in the early days of racing, which had attracted the notice of Osmer (1756),



and other writers of his time. The explanation probably lies in the fact that the studs of Lord D'Arcy, at Sedbury, and of the first and second Dukes of Buckingham, at Helmsley, Yorkshire, both chiefly composed of Arabian, or Eastern, blood, were originally responsible for most of these foundation mares.

An important addition to this volume was a list of the principal stallions from the commencement of the work to the date of issue, showing the original mares from which they were descended in female line. This was an entirely new feature, and generally approved of. For the first time also a specimen page was tabulated exemplifying the method of tracing the descent of a mare from her original ancestress.

Such a scheme applying to every mare had for some time before been attempted by the Germans, Herman Goos and I. P. Frenzel, who, having realised the utility of such information, each published elaborate works a few years previously on "Family Tables of English Thoroughbred Stock," compiled with the same thoroughness that is characteristic of their nation.

#### "H.-B." STALLIONS.

We have hitherto only considered the question of animals of pure descent contained in the *Stud Book*, but throughout the entire period covered by its pages, the Editors have ever been confronted with the problem as how best to deal with the produce of mares who have been mated with half-bred stallions of all sorts and conditions, and at different periods the subject has been treated in various ways. Strictly speaking, animals so bred should find no place in the *General Stud Book* at all, but on the other hand it is the express purpose of the work to record the produce of thoroughbred mares, and their stud returns would be incomplete if this information concerning them was not afforded.

In the earlier volumes, the foals by these half-bred stallions were shewn under their dams in the usual way, the letters

“h-b.” being appended to the names of their sires. These animals were, therefore, actually entered in the *Stud Book*, but of course fillies so bred were never allowed to appear subsequently as brood mares.<sup>1</sup> Thus, in Vol. V., page 55, it will be found the unnamed Centaur mare had in 1835 a bay filly by Rajah (h-b), but it was never shewn that this filly afterwards became the dam of Hotspur, who was only just beaten by The Flying Dutchman for the Derby of 1849, in a field of twenty-six horses.

Again, at a later period, although the produce of such matings were in many cases still entered in the *Stud Book*, the Editors salved their consciences by no longer printing their names in italics, a custom which has invariably prevailed from the Introductory volume of 1791 to the present day ; and also effectually to mark their disapproval of the very existence of such animals, though entering them in the book, they declined to index them !

A reference to Volume XIII., page 491, will shew the Grand National winner, Woodbrook, by the “half-bred” sire The Lawyer, out of The Doe, duly entered under his dam, but his name is not in the familiar italics, and as it does not appear in the index, no indication is afforded that he is to be found in the *Stud Book* at all. Very many of the produce of Mayboy, Mackintosh, and other “h-b.” sires will be found treated in the same manner, and no doubt the Editors then felt that the difficulty they had so long contended with had at length been satisfactorily met, and overcome.

Later times, however, brought forth more penal measures, and in recent volumes the Editors no longer permit themselves to touch the accursed thing, and decline to shew whether a mare mated with a stallion who is not in the *Stud Book* had any produce at all, merely stating that she “was covered by (say) Prospector in 1924,” and frequently the very name of the sire is withheld.

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1. Save for two daughters of Duc-an-Dhurras, see page 27.

It would, however, be of service to breeders if information could be given that the mares in question had either foaled, or been barren, to a half-bred stallion (or to one whose pedigree is "untraced," as the Editors now prefer to term them, though in the case of a horse like Prospector, such a description appears to be singularly inappropriate), as the adoption of this plan would enable the mares' records to be given more completely, while allowing no "h-b." animals to figure in the *Stud Book*.

Some of these stallions, such as Prospector and Shogun, are descended from sources, which though outside the *General Stud Book*, in early days the Editors regarded with an almost beneficent neutrality, and certainly in some instances fillies of this blood (The Orphan and another of Duc-an-Dhurras' daughters) were allowed to appear with their produce for no less than five generations before being expelled by the sterner decrees of later days.

It may here be remarked that some of these "h-b's."<sup>1</sup> are now able to prove satisfactorily some ten, or more, crosses of pure blood, to trace back for over a century, and shew such performances on the turf as to have warranted their inclusion in the *Stud Book*, in accordance with the conditions of entry published in Vol. XIX., had not they been expressly altered at a later date, in order for ever to exclude them.

As regards corrections to the text furnished by owners, it frequently happens at the present time that when an animal has been registered with a given colour and sex, either or both of these particulars are subsequently amended, often after a considerable lapse of time; such alterations no doubt receive careful investigation before they are accepted, otherwise a ready door is opened to substitution and fraud. If it were obligatory on breeders, as already suggested,<sup>2</sup> to furnish accurate descriptions of the colour and markings of their foals when originally entering them, it would render mistakes of this kind difficult.

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1. See descendants of Red Ribbons, page 26.

2. Page 10.

It is, of course, a matter of common knowledge that it is occasionally not easy to ascertain precisely the ultimate colour of foals at birth, more particularly as regards greys, but in any case a correct return of markings would be of material assistance should any question of identification arise hereafter.

It may be further observed that in cases where a mare's produce is entered as "dead," it would be a manifest advantage to record at what age it died. This would be merely reverting to the custom which obtained in the earlier volumes, where the period of its life was given in days, and often even in hours, while the actual cause of death was frequently stated. At the present time, though breeders are expressly requested to state "if foal is dead, *how long did it live?*" on the official form for making the return of their mares for the *Stud Book*, no use is made of the information thus supplied, and the produce, except in a very few isolated instances, is simply marked as "dead," whether it was born dead, died young, killed by accident, or destroyed during the first year or two of its life, for which many examples may be cited.

As an instance, that of the Sledmere-bred Startling filly, the entry under her dam reads as follows:—

1911. b.f. (dead) by Spearmint,  
though it is a fact that this filly was sold as a yearling at Doncaster for 1,350 guineas, and subsequently killed in breaking, when nearly two years old. Again, in the current volume, the mare Sylvia, by Cylgad, is shewn to have had foals (dead) in 1923 and 1924, yet the first-named was destroyed within two months of being a two-year-old, and the other certainly lived a week or more. Moreover, should an animal be given a name, and die during its foal or yearling days, it is the custom of the Editors to delete its name from the return of its dam's produce in the *Stud Book*, which, had it stood, would have conveyed the impression that it had, at least, lived some little time—and it is merely shewn as a "dead" foal.

This system of entry is misleading, and gives a damaging impression of the stud record of a mare.

Another improvement that suggests itself, is that when a foal has not been given a name in time for it to be included in the current *Stud Book*, its entry should be repeated *in full* under its dam in the next volume. This method has already been followed in a few instances, and should be an inflexible rule, but it far more often happens that a name, if not received in time for the publication of a volume, never appears at all in the stud record of the dam, thus making it a matter of great difficulty to trace her produce. For example, the mare Veneration II. is shewn to have had in :

1908. Ch. f. by Gallinule,

but no indication has ever been given that the foal in question was called Sacred Ibis, and it was not until she in turn became a brood mare that the name appeared in the index to the *Stud Book*, although it had actually been registered for her as early as February, 1910, thus by no possible means could anyone investigating the produce of Veneration II. find out that she was the dam of Sacred Ibis.

Similarly, a perusal of the stud return of Jessica affords no clue that her filly of 1916, by Bayardo, subsequently to become famous as an Oaks winner, bore the name of Bayuda, though it should be said that in this particular instance, her name was published in a supplementary list at the end of the *Stud Book*, though never under her dam, and consequently it escapes observation.

In conclusion, if the original author of this admirable work could see its present dimensions, he would indeed think it had grown into a "bulky volume" (to recall his own description of the first issue), and both its size, and continuance to the present day, afford the best testimony to the approbation of the public all over the world, extended now over several generations.





# THE RACING CALENDAR.

THERE can be little doubt but that from very early ages the inhabitants of these islands had been accustomed to match horses for speed and endurance. But as until comparatively recent times few records were kept of their breeding studs, so no regular returns of racing were preserved for the information of posterity.

A search amongst old State papers and family archives, together with allusions to the sport in the very few newspapers of a later day, result in little more than a fragmentary knowledge of the subject being obtained, and even that much would often be missing, but for the fact that racing matters seemed to be inseparably interwoven with politics, at any rate for a long period after the Restoration (1660), and possibly earlier, and thus were preserved in contemporary history.

Newmarket and Burford (Bibury) then occupied much of the time of the Court, and racing at those places was principally followed by its immediate *entourage*, whereas the country meetings were solely for the amusement of the local populace.

The bare names of some of the actual winners have been thus handed down to us, but no one, however, seems to have troubled to record any particulars of horses who were beaten, or who their owners were, so the available details are meagre in the extreme, with the exception of a few celebrated matches at Newmarket, the results of which were duly chronicled.

The *Diary of John Hervey*, first Earl of Bristol, who was a very prominent supporter of the Turf towards the end of the seventeenth, and very early days of the next century, throws more light on racing at Newmarket at that date than any other source with which we are acquainted, and gives a good insight into the great value of the matches contested at

that period, mentioning by name several horses from which our present stock are directly derived, and one much regrets that as my lord had the pen of a ready writer, he was content to jot down only such sparse details of the sport in which for many years he had taken a leading part.

From a survey of the various channels above-named, it has been possible to ascertain many interesting particulars as to racing at Newmarket, but as regards the meetings generally which were held throughout the country, little can be gleaned before the era of the first historical *Racing Calendar* in 1727, with the one exception of York races, which have been recorded since 1709.

It is very noticeable how great a superiority the North of England had over the South in early racing matters, and it is therefore fitting that as Yorkshire was originally the chief home of our racehorses, that to York itself should belong the credit of having the first properly organised race meeting fully reported.

These races were held in 1709 on Clifton and Rawcliffe Ings, close to the city, and from that date, without a break, to 1915 (when the races lapsed owing to the European War), the complete returns of the meetings at York have always been regularly recorded.

Full particulars of this inaugural York Meeting we discovered in a large folio MSS. book, by one Richard Tennant, of York, now in the library of Sir Richard Sykes at Sledmere, and which had been forgotten to contain any allusions to turf matters, but was evidently the source tapped by a later compiler of a little calendar, which dealt with Yorkshire racing only, from this date to about 1783, which will be noticed more fully hereafter,<sup>1</sup> and from whence successive writers all drew their information.

Tennant's book is entitled "A Table of the Names of those Men who have been Majors [Mayors], Baylifs, and Sherrifs in York from 1272, with Accidents [Incidents] for each year." The whole is written in the wonderful hand of its compiler,

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1. Pages 264-6.

who appears to have died shortly after the second year of York races, and consequently we are debarred further information about a sport in which he evidently took a keen interest. At his death, his great book seems to have passed into the possession of Francis Drake, F.R.S., the celebrated antiquary, who published in 1736 his well-known work, "*Eboracum*," in folio, containing the history and antiquities of York, and its Minster.

Tennant's MSS. was afterwards acquired by the famous book-collector, Sir Mark Masterman Sykes, and by some chance it escaped dispersion at the sale of the Sledmere library in 1824, when the books and prints sold for the then large sum of £34,456 9s. 6d. No mention is made by Tennant of any racing at York itself before the year 1709, and as he enters into the circumstance with particular minuteness, it seems probable that previous to this date there had been no regular meeting in the City, or he would certainly have recorded the event. There had, we know, been racing of a sort from time to time in the neighbourhood, but no established annual fixture.

As so far as we are aware, the particulars of the meeting, as amplified by Tennant, have never been printed, they are here appended :—

"I Richard Tennant, who writt this Book," states that September 21st, 1709, "was ye first time that four mile heats were run in Clifton Ings, Sir Will<sup>m</sup>. Robinson making a large stone bridge, nine yards broad, between Rockliffe and Clifton Ings att his own proper charge. There was a starting and weighing stoop at this end, and att an equal distance stoops to ye turnings, stoops att ye far end, painted all white ; being ye first time, I have incerted all ye Gentlemen's names, how they rid, ye two first days, ye 3rd not being of so much [importance] viz.—

First Day. Was a Golden Cup, 50 Guyneas, Run for

By :—1. Colonl. Norelif. Distanc'd ye first heat.

2. Mr. Metcalf of Sandhutton. Wone ye Cup.

3. Mr. Hepplethwaite, nigh Malton, ye Stakes.

4. Mr. Wilks, nigh Richmond.

They rid eleven stone. Horses six years old.

[NOTE.—Pick, in his *Turf Register*, which, however, was

not published till 1786, gives the date as Tuesday, September 13th, and says that the weights carried in this race were twelve stone.]

Second Day. A Punch Bowl, Monteif, and Laddle, £30.

By : 1. Earl of Crowforth [Crawford]. Distanc'd ye third heat.

2. Lord Mulleneux. Rid wrong side of ye Turning Stoops, and distanc'd.

3. Sir Willm. Strickland got 2nd heat and 4th heat, and ye Stake.

4. Mr. Childers, nigh Doncaster, got 3rd and 4th heat, and Plate. Mare.

5. Mr. Witty, Beverley, got ye first heat, and rid beyond all Expectation, being ye least horse, but very good, and not being a gentleman, they all rid against him, but could not distance him.

These last ran 4 heats, ye first three heats being single.

The Mr. [Leonard] Childers, "nigh Doncaster," was the representative of the well-known family of that name who lived at Carr House, just outside Doncaster, and was the breeder of Flying Childers, by the Darley Arabian, who was long supposed to be the fastest horse ever foaled, and who many of our ancestors firmly believed had covered a mile in a minute.

Colonel Norcliffe was the owner of the famous training ground of Langton Wold, near Malton, second only in importance to Newmarket before the days of railways, and which will ever be associated with the memory of John Scott, the "Wizard of the North," who prepared there a long succession of classic winners, including six of the Derby, eight of the Oaks, and sixteen of the St. Leger.

"Third Day. Inholders' Plate. A Tankard, £10.

"This Inholders' Plate, given by ye Inholders of York, was for 12 stone, 3 heats, and any horse, gelding, or mare to be put in valued at £—, and so to be sold; nothing but jockeying and fowl play was offer'd; excepting one man who rid fair, and tho' he lost ye last heat, yet Sir Willm Robinson and more Gentlemen gave him the Plate, the others forfeiting by breaking ye artickles.

"These races are to continue every year."

Tennant gave a similar description of the races the following



season, which were chiefly remarkable for the victory of Bay Bolton, at that time running under the name of Brown Lusty, almost the first great native, as opposed to Eastern-bred, stallion to which our present-day pedigrees go back, though of course he carried many strains of Arab blood in his veins. This horse was bred by Sir Matthew Peirson, at Lowthorpe, near Bridlington, Yorkshire, in 1705, and was sold by him to the Duke of Bolton. During his career on the turf he won races at places so far apart as Middleham (Yorks), Quainton Meadow (Bucks), and at Newmarket, shewing what great distances by road had to form part of the daily work of old-time racehorses, before they could be conveyed by rail or vans.

## 1710.

“ Clifton Ings Horse Races run for the 7th August, with the names of the Owners and Horses, and Colours, that Runn, and who got the Plates and Stakes, and those that were distanc'd is as Followeth :—”

“ First Plate, Monday, August ye 7th, Gold Cup, value 60 gs.

1. Mr. Stapleton's black mare, caled Pet.
2. S<sup>r</sup> Henry Bellas' chestnut horse. Did not run.
3. Mr. Currer's [Curwen's] gray mare, caled Fancy.
4. Sir Mathew Person's brown horse, caled Brown Lusty.  
Won y<sup>e</sup> Gold Cup.
5. Mr. Scarbrough's brown mare, caled Silver Snow.
6. Mr. Wilk's gray mare, caled Wagtail. Got y<sup>e</sup> Stakes.
7. Mr. Sunderland's bay horse, caled Countryman.
8. Lord Irwin's bay horse, caled Dandler. Fel the first heat,  
and distanc'd.
9. Mr. Scroop's bay horse.”

Second Plate. Tuseday, August ye 8th. Two Decanters, value £20.

1. Mr. Currer's gray horse, caled Dancing Master.
2. Mr. Dawson's bay horse, caled Twivy.
3. Mr. Hutton's gray mare, caled Min. Stakes.
4. Mr. Childers' bay horse, caled Swap.
5. Mr. Sunderland's bay horse, caled Hawker. Plate.
6. Mr. Watson's bay horse, caled Buck.
7. Mr. Plaxton's chestnut mare, caled Wanton Shanks.
8. Mr. Lowther's bay mare, caled Small-hopes.
9. Mr. Beckwith's black mare, caled Black Bess.

Third Plate. Fryday, August y<sup>e</sup> 11th. Punch Bowl, and Monteif, value £—.

1. S<sup>r</sup> William Ramsden's gray horse, caled Gray Ramsden. Plate.
2. Mr. Currer's chestnut horse caled Flat Face, distanced 1st heat.
3. Lord Carlisle's chestnut horse, caled Pepper. Stakes.
4. Mr. Childers' chestnut mare caled White Rose. Did not run.

This Plate was put off til Fryday by reason of y<sup>e</sup> Raines, they Run only one heat, my Lord yeilding y<sup>e</sup> Plate."

[NOTE.—Orton, in his *Turf Annals of York and Doncaster*, records that the races continued to be held on Clifton Ings till 1730, when they were removed to Knavesmire, the present site, in order to be on drier ground, on a course laid out by Mr. Alderman Telford.]

That a register of Races Past had long been urgently required, will be seen by an advertisement which appeared in the *London Gazette* for February 12-15, 1679 (No. 1486), and which was first discovered by Mr. J. P. Hore (the talented author of the *History of Newmarket*, a monument of research), and must be regarded as the first attempt to register the results of various sporting performances.

It would, indeed, be interesting if a copy of this compilation has survived, though probably past hoping for, and which possibly may only have been in manuscript :

" This is to give notice, That at the Request of several Persons of Quality and others, Mr. *John Nelson* doth keep a Register at the Groom Porter's Office in *Newmarket*, of all such Horse-matches, Foot-matches, Cock-matches, or Bets relating to the premises, as any person therein concerned hath or shall desire him to Register, to avoid such differences as often arise by the loss of Articles and mistakes of Bets ; as also for the Benefit of such as live far from *London*, and design to be at the *Newmarket* meetings, who may by that means know when the principal Matches are run.

" And if any person is desirous to have a Copy of the said Matches sent at any time to any part of *England*, he may either have them from the said Mr. *John Nelson* at *Newmarket*, or upon writing to him thither, a Letter left for him at the Groom Porter's in *Whitehall*, with half a Crown for the Transcript, and the said Copy shall be sent according to the directions of the party."

The functions of the Groom Porter applied to all the Royal

residences. He had the "oversight and care of all the Common "Billyard Tables, Bowling Grounds, Diceing Houses, Gameing "Houses, and Common Tennis Courts, and the power of "Lycenseing the same for the better regulation thereof." He also had to decide disputes in betting, gaming, etc.

Previous to 1727 no steps were apparently taken to publish a yearly return of past racing, and such accounts, from Tennant's day to this time, as are available, must have been preserved in writing, or possibly in some cases in local newspapers, as no complete record exists for this period.

As regards Newmarket, some returns are fortunately obtainable, as John Pond collected and printed in the first volume of his *Kalendar* :—

*"An Account of all those MATCHES that have been run at Newmarket, drawn, or Forfeit paid on them, where the Articles have been deposited there in the Hands of Mr. Harrison, who is appointed to take care of them.*

*From October 1, 1718 to October 1, 1751."*

The particulars of these matches, dating from a period nine years earlier than Cheny's work, are of historical interest, shewing how, and by whom, the sport was followed in those early days, the weights carried, the distances usually run, and the amount of the stakes, but beyond giving the actual results, only the bare details are afforded.

From henceforth, however, we can trace the progress of the sport year by year in the various *Racing Calendars*, and the most notable incidents recorded in their pages, not the least being the formation and growth of the Jockey Club at Newmarket, culminating in its becoming the supreme Turf authority.

**1727.** This was a most memorable year, as it saw the publication of the earliest annual *Racing Calendar*, which has never since been interrupted, and thus marks the turning-point between ancient, and what must be considered comparatively modern turf history. Racing matters now very gradually assumed their present form, and properly authenticated records took the place of tradition.

Of John Cheny, the proprietor of the first *Calendar*, we unfortunately know nothing, either as to his antecedents or vocation, beyond that he lived at Arundel in the county of Sussex, from which place he sent out his "proposals" for the printing of his *Calendar*, but that he was an enthusiast is very evident, or he could never have surmounted the difficulties in the way of obtaining a fairly complete return, entailing as it did his personally riding all over the kingdom<sup>1</sup> to collect his accounts of race meetings.

The title-page of his book is here reproduced :—

AN  
HISTORICAL LIST  
or  
ACCOUNT  
Of all the  
*Horse-Matches Run,*  
And of all the  
PLATES and PRIZES  
run for in *England* (of the Value of  
Ten Pounds or upwards) in 1727,  
Containing  
The names of the Owners of the HORSES, &c.,  
that have Run, as above, and the Names  
and Colours of the HORSES also,  
with  
The Winner distinguished of every MATCH, PLATE,  
PRIZE, or STAKES; The Conditions of running, as  
to Weight, Age, Size, &c., and the Places in which  
the losing HORSES have come in  
With a LIST also of the Principal COCK-MATCHES  
of the Kingdom in the Year above, and who  
were the Winners and Losers of them.

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L O N D O N .

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Printed in the Year M.DCC.XXVII.

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1. Page 96.

This page served also as the table of contents, and shews the scope and object of the work, which was to be published by subscription, to run for the seven years following, half-a-crown to be paid at the time of order and five shillings annually for seven years, except the last year, when only half-a-crown was to be paid, as that sum had already been advanced the first year. Subscriptions might be paid to various persons named, or to "the said John Cheny, as he travels to take his accounts."

On these singularly modest terms the first *Racing Calendar* started on its long journey.

As an inducement to intending subscribers, Cheny pointed out that as his *Calendar* would appear annually :—

"in the midst of Winter, will be an agreeable Amusement, in that dull, unactive Season, rendering Gentlemen capable, even in their Chambers, of diverting themselves with a Prospect, as it were, of the Sport of each past Year, so also must the Advantage be considerable in Point of Practice, each Book discovering what Horses are moving in all Parts of the Kingdom, and what Figure every particular one of 'em has made at the Places of his Running the Season before; what Alterations, different Weights, and different Courses, and different Seasons of the Year has caus'd in any of them. From hence 'twill be always discoverable what old Horses are dropping, and how they decline and go off; what young Horses are every Year coming up; and by what steps they advance and improve. Which must render Gentlemen capable of reducing their Calculations nearer to perfection, and consequently of matching or betting with greater advantage."

That an exclusive knowledge of "form," in those days of restricted communications, might be turned to good account, appears to have also occurred to so great a personage as Charles James Fox, George Selwyn writing to Lord Carlisle<sup>1</sup> under date 30th July, 1774, remarking :—

"I hear that the night Charles sat up at White's, he planned out a kind of itinerant trade, which was of going from horse race to horse race, and so, by knowing the value, and speed, of all the horses in England, to acquire a certain fortune."

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1. MSS. Earl of Carlisle, p. 273.



Further, in a lengthy preface, Cheny set forth the method which he intended to adopt in his book, and began by stating that he had not :—

“ in this Design distinguish’d any Place or Places, on account of Superiority in point of Grandeur, Extent, Antiquity, or the like, by placing of them first; but have given the Pre-eminence to those Places that are honour’d with Royal Plates, particularly beginning where the first King’s Plate in 1727 was run for, adjusting all other Places according to their Order in point of Time. After which I have placed the Counties alphabetically.”

Cheny seemed pleased that the first race he had to record should have taken place at Newmarket :—

“ as the Commodiousness of Newmarket Heath for Horse Racing is so extremely great, as certainly to excel in that Point all other Places, the Truth of which is sufficiently demonstrated in that it has often drawn down even our Kings and Queens thither, and always (at least twice in the Year) invites our Nobles, etc., to make their appearance there, all to divert themselves in that way.

“ I hope to be excus’d in that I have not, in the particular Lists of Matches and Plates, placed the Persons concern’d agreeable to their Rank and Quality, because the chief End proposed in printing these Accounts being to distinguish the better Horses from the worser, it must certainly appear irregular and preposterous, to see the worser Horses placed first, and the better last, and so for the rest; which must many times be the Consequence of placing the Owners of them according to their Quality.”

He further announced that :—

“ in order to prevent all Mistakes for the future, I have this first Year travel’d the Kingdom over, contracting a Correspondence in every Part of it with Persons, who, at the very Times of Sport are to take Accounts for me where I do not appear. ’Tis this, together with the Trouble I have often took of riding from Man to Man for Information, in order to render these Accounts as just as possible, that has made it thus late, ere this first Book was publish’d, but for the time to come it shall never be quite so late as Christmas.

“ I have not mingled the Cock Matches with the Races, tho’ many of ’em were Run and Fought at the same Time and Place, but have made them a Distinct List at the end of the Races.”

He concluded by saying that, in obedience to the wishes of “ two or three Noblemen and very many Gentlemen,” he

would endeavour to give full pedigrees of young horses starting for very important races, and having engaged himself "in an Affair of extreme Expense, and Fatigue," hoped to be "favoured with the approbation of my Subscribers."

Half a century later, when Mr. Weatherby began to collect materials for a *General Stud Book*, these pedigrees, thus preserved, must have been invaluable to him, and, being contemporaneously obtained, were probably fairly accurate, enabling him to carry down many of the pedigrees of the racehorses of his day to the beginning of the eighteenth century, or earlier, which would otherwise have been impracticable.

The King's Plates, to which Cheny gave the post of honour, dated from the days of Charles II., and to the time of their discontinuance in 1887, have always been subject to their own special Articles, quite apart from any Rules of Racing in force at any particular period, and in the supposed interest of the welfare of the thoroughbred horse, favoured heavy-weights, and a long distance of ground, as the proper test for stoutness.

In Cheny's time, and up to 1751, these Plates were restricted to six-year-old horses only, carrying 12st., over four miles, and were run in three heats. This year three were run at Newmarket, the remaining eight at Guildford, Ipswich, Nottingham, Hambleton, York, Lewes, Winchester, and Lincoln. The Plates were of the value of 100 guineas each, a very large prize in those days, and had a most beneficial influence on horse breeding. After 1751 younger horses were permitted to run, five-year-olds to carry 10st., four-year-olds 9st., such races to be run over two miles, and these weights and courses remained in force for a very considerable time.

It was a noticeable feature in this first *Racing Calendar* that no rules of any kind were included; either there was no generally recognised code in existence, or if there were, everyone was supposed to be more or less familiar with it.

Consequently there could have been but very little uniformity in the conduct of race meetings, and it is not surprising that frequently we find the decision of the judges subsequently contested in the law courts.

Also, though "Give and Take" Plates constantly figured in the programmes, even at Newmarket, no table was given of the weights to be carried in such races, in which horses were measured to an eighth of an inch, and weighted in stones, pounds, and ounces accordingly.

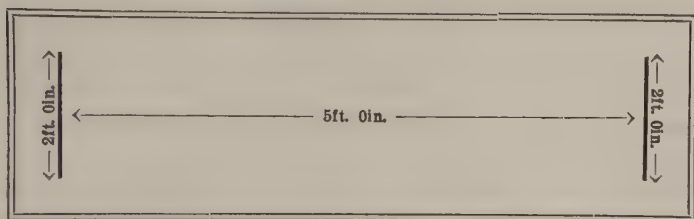
These Plates had been instituted in order to equalise the smaller horse's chances of winning, by allotting weight according to height, and were much in favour at this period. Some such races appear in the first issue (1727) of the *Calendar*, and after 1751 a table for the ready calculation of weights was given in every volume, till owing to altered conditions, these particular races fell into disuse, the schedule appearing for the last time in 1805. Many of the best known horses of the time competed in these plates, which filled a want, and were accordingly popular.

Owing to the very heavy weights then in vogue for racing, added to the comparatively small stature of so many of the horses then running, a system of handicapping by means of an additional impost would not have been practicable, and thus these races were evolved, horses being weighted in respect of their size, and occasionally as to their age also.

The usual conditions were that a horse of fourteen hands carried nine stone, and for every eighth of an inch more or less of height, he was penalised, or received, fourteen ounces, or two stone to a hand. Thus, an animal of fifteen hands would carry eleven stone, and of twelve hands, five stone, which were the extremes of weight as provided in the table. This scale applied to aged horses, but an allowance of weight could be made, if required, for those of a less age.

Extreme accuracy in measurement was thus demanded, and it was usual for this purpose to stand horses on a slab of stone, which had traverse lines cut into it, two feet long and

five feet apart, beyond which they were not allowed to stretch themselves either way, with a view to decreasing their real height under the standard.



The above is a plan of the stone, shewing the limits allowed between a horse's feet. Owing to the distance permitted between the fore-feet, it would seem to have had the effect of making a horse measure rather less than he really was, but we have no practical experience on this point.

It need scarcely be said that occasionally efforts were made to cheat the measurer, and horses were taught to stand so as to make the least of themselves, as it is alleged has been done in certain cases with polo ponies in our own day, so that they should not exceed the maximum height allowed by the rules.

Thus, in a scurrilous contemporary book, *The Jockey Club* (1792), the author, Charles ("Louse") Piggott, says of Sir Frederick Evelyn, "he passes for what is called a *knowing one*, and is thought to have acquired a particular and curious method of making a horse sink, while measuring for a *give-and-take Plate*. This kind of exotic fame gratifies every feeling of Sir F——k, and is the only ambition to which he aspires."

The measurement of horses for these Plates must have been a fruitful subject of dispute, and it is not surprising that the officials themselves were not always in accord as to the exact height, and, in consequence, we sometimes find the same animal running at slightly different weights on various courses. For instance, even after he was an aged horse, the famous Gimcrack ran as fourteen hands at Ascot, fourteen hands and a quarter of an inch at Wisbech, and fourteen and five-eighths

at Epsom, and must have known his way by road about the country, for in 1767 alone, of his eight seasons on the Turf, he ran at Newmarket, Carlisle, Ascot, Marlborough, Wells, Wantage, and Odsey (near Royston).

At Newmarket, towards the end of the eighteenth century, a slightly different plan was in vogue, horses running on a weight-for-age scale, but those measuring under fifteen hands were allowed half-a-stone for every inch, and those under fourteen hands a full stone.

The most valuable race then run at Newmarket was the Stakes of 220 Guineas, "Being the Contributions of the Eleven persons following, at the sum of 20 Guineas per man." It may be interesting to give the list of subscribers as set forth in the *Calendar* :—

His Grace the Duke of Somerset.  
 His Grace the Duke of Bolton.  
 His Grace the Duke of Devonshire.  
 His Grace the Duke of Rutland.  
 His Grace the Duke of Hamilton.  
 Right Hon. the Earl of Godolphin.  
 Right Hon. the Earl of Halifax.  
 Right Hon. the Lord Milsintown.  
 Right Hon. the Lord William Manners.  
 Sir William Morgan, Knight of the Bath.  
 Edward Coke, Esquire.

This race was to be run "in October by horses, etc., not exceeding five years old, one heat, carrying nine stone, and "being such as never started before for any prize whatever, "but at Newmarket." It was, however, virtually a race for five-year-olds, as no younger horses ran at this period.

After giving the return for York Races, Cheny mentioned :—

"That the plates at this City will be continued, everyone undoubtedly takes for granted. I shall, therefore, only observe that the time of these Races is always about the beginning of August, it being a determined Rule with them that as soon as the Assizes (generally held there about the middle of July) are over, and the Inns have had Respite just to cleanse and refit for fresh Guests, the Races shall come on."

The Ascot Meeting only consisted of two races, a 40-Guinea



Purse for such horses "as had the same Season carried the Owners of them to the Death of a Leash of Stags in Windsor Forest, weight 12 stone," and another race, with similar conditions, except that the horses carried ten stone; a striking difference from the pomp and circumstance of Royal Ascot of the present day.

It may be a matter of surprise to modern racegoers that the richest stake in the Kingdom was at this period annually run for at Wallasey<sup>1</sup>, in Cheshire, which is not now associated with racing at all. But in former times, Wallasey was a place of great renown in the annals of the Turf, and it was here, in 1682, that the ill-fated Duke of Monmouth rode, and won, his last race in this country, which success only served to aggravate his misdemeanours, it being considered to have a political significance, and hastened his end on the scaffold.

Leasowe Castle, which stands on the old race-course, and is now put to other uses, was from its design evidently built by the Earl of Derby of that day as a racing residence, the windows being so placed as to command the entire course, but the reason the meeting came to so abrupt an end is now only a matter of conjecture.

We shall see presently that though racing at Wallasey ceased in 1733, yet the famous Stakes were transferred to Newmarket, and run under the old name till 1740, when it dropped out of the programme. The value was originally 280 guineas, and it was a condition that every horse starting for this Prize must be bred by the owner. The winner this year was Sir Richard Grosvenor, fourth Baronet, of Eaton.

It may be fittingly noted that Captain Machell's grey gelding won the Plate at the Westmoreland Races, and Lancelot Machell of Crackenthorpe, direct ancestor of "The Captain" of our day, figures amongst the subscribers to the first *Calendar*.

A Match under particularly severe conditions, even in

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1. *An Old Racing Stable at Wallasey*, by R. D. Radcliffe, F.S.A. (Transactions of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire, Vol. IX., N.S.).

those days of heavy weights, was run for at Newmarket on the 1st May, when "Mr. Vane's Chestnut M. Bald Charlotte" [5 years] 18 stone, beat Mr. Ashby's Grey H. Swinger, 17 st. "7-lb., 4 miles, 200 Guineas."

At the present time one can scarcely appreciate the hold cock-fighting then had upon sportsmen generally, and in every *Calendar* for over a hundred years the reports of Mains were regularly given, which usually took place at the time of the races at the various "places of sport," and were fought by persons of every rank throughout the country. At the foot of the old York race cards a note stated that: "A Pair of Cocks will be on Sod, at the Cock-Pit, Coffee Yard, every Day during the Races, precisely at eleven o'clock."

Even a *savant* like Dr. Johnson was not above admiring the courage of a gamecock, and remarked to Boswell, "A fighting cock has a nobleness of resolution," speaking of the bird in the same spirit as we now allude to the bulldog, as emblematical of British pluck and endurance.

A list was given of Matches made to be run at Newmarket the following year, and also the names of the subscribers to the *Calendar*, placing the nobility in order of precedence, and the remainder under their respective counties, which custom was continued by all the subsequent compilers (with the exception of Pond) until the list was finally omitted in 1889.

The volume concluded with an alphabetical list of the "Places of Sport," Racing and Cocking being given indiscriminately; but no index was afforded to either the runners, or their owners, so it must have been a tedious business to trace the careers of particular horses—which Cheny, in the prospectus of his *Calendar*, had suggested as a winter amusement—owing to the extreme difficulty of finding them in his pages.

It may be well to mention that Cheny was quite content to start his labours with a record of racing in this year (1727), and made no attempt to render his work retrospective, and

though he subsequently promised to give "a List of the Matches and Prizes of Newmarket, for near fifty Years before the Commencement of these Books," it was left to his successor, John Pond, to partially carry this out in the year 1751, as has already been noted on page 93.

So far as can be ascertained, no horse under the age of five had run previous to this year, save in one or two isolated instances, and then regarded as an eccentricity. It was apparently an axiom of faith with almost everyone then connected with the Turf, that the very earliest at which horses should be asked to race was five years old, and regarding even them as immature animals, they preferred to wait until they were six, which was the age fixed for the King's Plates.

In August, 1727, however, Yorkshiremen instituted a Plate of 20 Guineas, at Black Hambleton, to be run for by four-year-olds, weight 9 st., which attracted fourteen starters, the race being won by Mr. Hudson's bay mare by the Thoulouse Barb, who subsequently became well-known as Miss Pert, afterwards the property of Mr. Vane.

Cheny remarked :—

"There has not before been any such Prize as this at Hambleton, nor are there any Engagements for continuing the same, but 'tis generally believed that Annually for the future in order to a Taste of the four-year-olds, the Gentlemen will raise a Plate to be run for here, under the same Limitations with this."

It was particularly noted that a four-year-old mare ran in the great race at Wallasey this year, but came in last ; and in a Match at Middleham between horses of four and five years, the former won. Further, at both Beverley and Bedale (Yorks), a race was provided for four year olds, but at no other places, so far as we are aware.

Whatever might be done at provincial meetings, that four-year-olds should run at Newmarket was a thing not to be thought of, and none did run there until the October Meeting of 1744, when a Fifty Guinea Purse was offered, and won by the Duke of Ancaster's grey filly, Frisky, by Driver.

The money for this race, and for two others of the same value, "was raised by and among the trading Part of the Inhabitants of Newmarket, the third consisted of Contributions of Persons of Estates."

Two years later a Purse of Sixty Guineas was run for by four-year-olds at Newmarket, so the fashion of racing young horses made but slow progress there.

**1728.** This year the races run in Wales were included in the *Calendar*.

Among the events to be determined the following year at Newmarket :—

"Mr. *Adams*, of *Newmarket*, bets Mr. *John South*, of the same, 50 guineas that he produces a horse, mare, or gelding, that shall carry one and the same Person a thousand Miles within a thousand Hours, the same to be performed on *Newmarket Heath*, and the Horse, etc., and Rider to set out on the 1st May, 1729."

A considerable number of matches were made at Newmarket, the invariable distance being four miles, the weights usually ranging between eight and nine stone, and the stake 200 guineas, half ft. ; otherwise, throughout the country, owners were content to race for very small sums.

During this season, besides the races for four-year-olds at Bedale, Beverley, and Hambleton, others were held at two meetings in County Durham, apart from which the innovation gained no ground.

**1729.** The King's Plates this year were increased to fourteen, one being for the first time allotted to Scotland, and was run at Edinburgh.

It was considered that great progress had been made in the good conduct of race meetings, when the articles for a race in the County Durham :

"hath in them this very remarkable Clause, *viz.*, That if any Rider shall lean, or rest, on any other Horse, &c., so as to force him, or her, out of the way, in such sort as in the judgment of the Subscribers (limited and appointed to determine disputes and differences), or the major Part of them then present, shall be deem'd and adjudg'd fowl

play according to these Articles, in such case the Horse &c., that such Person rides, is hereby declar'd to win nothing, nor be allow'd any Place in the said Race."

At Sunderland Races, in the same county, the reporter of the day in the *Calendar*, when describing the £25 Plate, gives the following details of the last heat :

" In running the 3d Heat, *Smiling Molly*, when 2d, fell to her Knees, had like to have thrown her Rider, but *Harmless* coming by just at the time, his Rider Clap'd out his Arm, to clear himself of the Mare and Rider, and by that restor'd the Rider of the said Mare to his Saddle and prevented his falling, but the other Mare by this time was near half a distance before, having in appearance, the Heat in Her hands with pleasure, but she took Offence at the People shouting and waving their Hats, and run on the wrong side of a Post, and though she immediately stop'd and turn'd back, yet it was too late, and the Grey Mare [*Smiling Molly*] won the said Heat, and consequently the Plate."

**1731.** Probably encouraged by the success which had attended their Plate for four-year-olds, at the little Meeting at Bedale (Yorks) this year a race was actually provided for three-year-olds, on October 1st, weight 8 st., one three-mile heat, and was contested by nine runners. The following season a similar race was held, but only five started for it, and no doubt the experiment was viewed with considerable disapprobation, for it was not again tried at Bedale, nor elsewhere till 1756, when a race confined to horses of this age was run at Newmarket, but not repeated there, nor attempted at any other meeting, till 1761.

A dispute having arisen at Preston Races, although the majority of the "Founders" (local Stewards) decided in favour of Mr. Myddleton's horse, Mr. Smith claimed the race, "declaring he would appeal to the Judgment of Newmarket" against their decision.

This is a most important statement, clearly shewing that even at that early date, some nineteen years before the institution of the Jockey Club, Newmarket was looked upon as the supreme authority in racing matters, and that it caused no wonderment that a local owner should appeal there for redress



in case of difficulty, and apparently the Stewards acquiesced in the arrangement, or the contrary would have been stated.

Indeed, when one considers the rank and position of the aforementioned subscribers<sup>1</sup> to the Newmarket Stakes, we see in them alone the *nucleus* of a Jockey Club, and it is reasonable to suppose that local meetings were only too ready to have their disputes adjusted by such an authoritative tribunal as those responsible for the conduct of racing at Newmarket.

It is apparent that here were evidences of the beginning of a central control, and of uniformity in decisions, which Cheny, the following year, mentioned as a much-to-be-desired attainment, but which, however, was not entirely achieved for considerably more than a hundred years afterwards.

In the programmes of Meetings at this period one frequently comes across races styled Whim (or Whimsical) Plates, so called because the conditions differed from those of other races, and were what we should now term weight-for-age races. Seven-year-olds and upwards carried 10st., six-year-olds 9st. 7lb., five-year-olds 8st. 11lb., and four-year-olds 8st., being the usual scale in vogue at the time.

It was frequently a condition of races that a certain number of "reputed running horses" should start, or the race should be void. At Stafford Races, on a hack being started merely with the object of qualifying, by making the required "field," pulling up, and then returning to his stable, "the company took Offence" and prevented the race in order to mark their disapproval. Thus the condition had to be observed in the letter, and not merely in the spirit of the law.

In the last week in *July* a great Cock-match was fought at the city of Carlisle between Mr. Philipson and Mr. Warwick, showing thirty-one cocks aside, for ten guineas a battle, and a hundred guineas the odd battle; in which Match was 25 Battles, 13 of which were won by Mr. Philipson and 12 by Mr. Warwick. This was a remarkably hard-foughten Main, for it came to 12 and 12, and the 25th Battle was long and strenuously contested on both sides, but Mr. Warwick's Cock at last gave it up, by actually running away.

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1. Page 100.

The *Calendars* do not record any other instance of a cock shewing the white feather in this manner.

"At Grimsthorp very early in the Spring, her Grace the Duchess of Ancaster fought Mr. Banks, showing 31 cocks aside, for 20 guineas and 200, in which Match were 20 Battles, 11 of which were won by her Grace and 9 by Mr. Banks. Her Grace also fought Mr. Banks of Horncastle in the Middle of July, showing the same number, for the same sums. In this Match was 24 Battles, 14 of which were won by her Grace and 10 by Mr. Banks."

In the Belvoir Castle MSS. a letter is preserved from Bridget Noel to her sister, the Countess of Rutland, shewing the keen interest ladies took in this sport.

[1687, April.]

"I am extreme sory it is not poseble for us to wat [wait] of my deare sister suner then the 28 and twenty of May, for hear is a coking [cock-fighting] and hors matches which we have promesed to be at. My Lord Toumand will be at the great coking, and [Lord] Barney and Lord Grandson, and a great meny more lords that I doe not know ther name, it is sade hear that it will be as great a match as ever has been. Barney intends to back our coks with some thousands, for he is of our side."

1732. Cheny commenced his *Calendar* this year by a review of the present state of the Turf, remarking:—

"The Diversion of Horse-Racing is advanced to such an Hight as to render the Practice of it Intimate and Familiar to almost every Part of the Kingdom; notwithstanding which, the Accidents incident to these Affairs are so numerous; the Conditions of Running so various and different, the Articles, or Advertisement, or both, so often capable of counter Constructions. The Methods of deciding Bets in particular and difficult Cases, known to so few, and with such Reluctancy (through Byass of Interest) submitted to by many, who are well acquainted with them, that those Affairs are frequently attended with Disputes and Contentions, too many of which, proceed to expensive Law Suits, that terminate not, but with the additional Evil, of leaving behind them Impressions of Resentment, between the Persons concern'd."

He added that he had been "importun'd" to publish in his book a standard Form of Articles for races, as a pattern, and also to lay down the rules as regards betting, "founded "on the Dictates or Judgment of Newmarket." He further

went on to say that he was forming a collection of all the difficult cases he had heard of, and should publish them for the assistance of sportsmen generally, thus anticipating the "Adjudged Cases" first published in the *Calendar* in 1807, and thenceforth to 1858, when they were omitted for the future.

Amongst several other improvements, Cheny said he should give "a List of the Studs of the Kingdom (suppos'd to produce "Running Horses) with the Number of Stallions and Mares, "and the Blood or Lineage of them," which would have been of great historical value. Also a list of Contributors to Plates, "a Point many Gentlemen are desirous of, to the End they "may know what Persons are possess'd of a Taste of Racing "in every Part of it."

"Also a List of the Courses of the Kingdom, those especially in present Use, with their just Length, by actual Measuration with my own Hand; also a Discription of their Forms and Cituations of their Streights, and their Turns, and the Degrees of them, whither Cituate high and dry, and consequently light, or low and flat, and wet, and consequently heavy. Which of 'em are hard, or stoney, or in any way pernicious or dangerous to the Feet, or Limbs, or both; and which are the Reverse of it, by which Gentlemen may apprise themselves (tho' never so remote) what Courses comport best with their Dispositions; the Nature, Temper, or Condition of their Horses, and are likeliest to conduce to their Advantage."

Lastly, he promised to provide an alphabetical list of horses which had run at each Meeting, but as Hell is paved with good intentions, most unfortunately only one of his laudable proposals, the Index, was ever carried into execution.

Cheny also made the interesting announcement that as "Persons of high Quality and Honour" had urged him to issue his book at more frequent intervals than every twelve months he had now arranged "in Conjunction with keeping "two or three Servants Riding for the Term of 4 or 5 Months "in the Year," to publish his Accounts once a fortnight, in addition to his yearly volume. He therefore gave notice that if "gentlemen would increase their subscriptions from a crown

“to half-a-guinea a year, they should receive every fortnight, “by way of post, from the middle of April till the last of “October, a full account of the racing for the past fortnight.”

Thus nearly two hundred years ago the first “Sheet Calendar” was issued to the public, and possibly copies of it may even now be in existence. In addition to Races Past, Races to Come were to be included, and any other information that would be of service to his subscribers.

It is thus evident that great strides were being made in Racing affairs at this juncture, which were fast leaving behind the primitive methods which had obtained but a few years previously.

A perusal of the Preface to this volume, unfortunately too long to be reproduced in its entirety, causes regret that subsequent compilers of *Calendars* did not follow his good example, and from time to time review the existing state of the Turf at their day.

It is unfortunate that the nearer the *Calendars* approach to the present time, the more they resemble a dictionary, and sometimes a little flesh grafted on the dry bones of history would be a welcome addition to their contents. As mentioned elsewhere, this remark applies with equal force to the *General Stud Book*, the earlier prefaces containing much interesting information as to the status of horse-breeding at the time of publication of that particular volume.

**1733.** The necessity of having but one person officially appointed as Judge was well exemplified at Durham Races, when two horses finished so near together that each owner claimed the stakes. There were that day no less than six “tryers” in the Chair, three of them awarding the race to one horse and three to the other. Finally, the stakes were divided “to avoid the Consequence of Law.”

For some reason it was contrary to Act of Parliament that two horses should be entered by the same person for one plate, and in fact this Rule existed down to very recent times,

causing a notorious dispute when Sir Joseph Hawley won the Doncaster Cup in 1851. At Leicester Races this year the public assumed that the horses entered by "the Duke of Ancaster and [his son] the Lord Marquis of Lindsey" both belonged to the Duke,

"At which the People on the Spot took offence, rais'd a Mutiny upon the Horses, and not only prevented their completing even one Heat, but committed great Violence both upon the Horse call'd *Gentleman* and his Rider, but as 'tis rare that Redress is recoverable from a mob, so I have not heard that his Grace has done anything more than demand the Prize, which has been denied him. The Town (since no Heat was compleated) resolving not to give it up, unless compell'd by an Action at Law."

**1734.** For the first time an Index to the *Calendar* was supplied, but for some unaccountable reason the horses, instead of being indexed under their own names, were placed under the names of their owners, thus making it a matter of extreme difficulty to find any particular animal, unless one was aware to whom it belonged. Unfortunately, all the succeeding compilers of *Calendars*, in this as in other matters, followed in the same groove, and seemed incapable of making any change for themselves.

Consequently, this system of indexing horses actually obtained for the next one hundred and sixteen years, when it was at length found intolerable, and horses were after that date found under their own names, thus it was no longer necessary to search the entire index through.

**1735.** It has been already remarked that the <sup>1</sup>Wallasey Stakes was the richest prize in the Kingdom, and in 1727 was worth 280 guineas. For some reason of which we are unaware, the races at Wallasey had been discontinued since 1732, but at Newmarket from that year up to 1739, inclusive, the principal race was called the Wallasey Stakes, and greatly increased in value, the Dukes of Devonshire,

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1. Page 101.



Ancaster, and Bridgwater, and Lords Portmore, Lonsdale, and Gower being the sole subscribers, and the entrance 100 guineas each.

The race this year was run in the month of April, and won by Lord Lonsdale's Spider, who had been successful in two races the previous season, "so that he, tho' a Galloway, "has (including his Lordship's own Stakes) won 1,900 Guineas, "and not six Years old till *May Day* next."

**1737.** The Great Stakes at Newmarket, now confined to four-year-olds (who would, however, have ranked as five-year-olds in another week's time, ages being reckoned from May-day) was increased to 1,000 guineas, 8st. 7lb., one heat only, and was contested by the following owners, each subscribing 100 guineas, and resulted thus :—

|                                               |    |
|-----------------------------------------------|----|
| Earl of Godolphin's Bay H. Lath .. ..         | 1  |
| Earl of Portmore's Ches. H. Squirt .. ..      | 2  |
| Duke of Devonshire's Bay H. John Trott .. ..  | 3  |
| Lord Vis. Lonsdale's Grey Colt .. ..          | 4  |
| Duke of Bolton's Bay M. Bab .. ..             | 5  |
| Duke of Somerset's Bay M. Barb .. ..          | 6  |
| Sir Mich. Newton's Bay H. Belzebub .. ..      | 7  |
| Earl of Hallifax's Bay Filly .. ..            | 8  |
| Lord Vis. Weymouth's Bay Filly Countess .. .. | 9  |
| Duke of Bridgwater's Ches. H. Hogmouth .. ..  | 10 |

The distance is not stated. The winner, Lath, who "made" the Godolphin Arabian, was the best horse of his day, and Squirt was the grandsire of Eclipse.

**1738.** A statistical table shews that the races in England this year, exclusive of many hundreds of small Plates of a less value than £10 each, amounted to £10,659 5s.

**1739.** A copy of the Articles relating to His Majesty's Plates, annually run for at Newmarket and other places, by 6-year-old horses, carrying 12 stone, was published for the first time, and with slight alteration remained in force till the Plates were discontinued in 1887.

These articles embodied some very salutary rules: "crossing and jostling," allowed elsewhere, being expressly forbidden, and must have furnished a very good lead as to the proper procedure to be followed at race meetings generally, in default of an authorised code of Rules.

By this date, races were provided for four-year-olds at twelve different meetings, all in the North of England, for stakes varying from 12 to 30 gs.

A most comprehensive table of the value of the races held during the year was given in the *Calendar*.

**1740.** In the absence of any recognised association responsible for the conduct of horse-racing, this year legislation intervened, and an Act of Parliament was passed controlling the sport. When one considers the extent to which the new Act must have interfered with local meetings, it is somewhat surprising that Cheny should have made no allusion to it, or published its provisions in his *Calendars*, as was done in every volume by all subsequent compilers, for the information of the public generally, until the Laws in question were altered, or repealed.

This important Act was intituled "An Act to Restrain and "Prevent the Excessive Increase of Horse-Races, and the more "effectual preventing of excessive and deceitful Gaming," and provided that on and after June 24, 1740, horses could be entered only by their actual owners, and confirmed the old rule that no person should <sup>1</sup>enter more than one horse for the same plate on pain of forfeiting such horses, or the value thereof. Further <sup>2</sup>that anyone running a horse for a race of less value than £50, should be fined £200, and anyone advertising a race of less value than £50, should pay a penalty of £100; races, however, at Newmarket, or at Black Hambleton, in Yorkshire, might be run for any sum without incurring a penalty, and three small local meetings which had been previously endowed by an annual sum,

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1. page 109.

2. page 127.

did not come under the purview of the Act, nor did certain other races, the prizes for which were derived from invested funds.

The three endowed races which were exempted from the foregoing regulations were at Farn (Cheshire), Kipling Coates (East Yorks), and Barham Downs, in Kent, all to be held in perpetuity, and were to be run for in the month of March in each year. The Town Plate<sup>1</sup> at Newmarket, dating from the time of Charles II., also is one of these privileged races.

Cheny gives some interesting particulars of their inauguration, and says that :—

“The two Prizes at *Farn*<sup>2</sup> were fifty or sixty Years ago founded by an elegant Subscription deposited in certain Hands, from the Interest of which the two Prizes annually arise, appointing them to be yearly run for on the *Monday* and *Tuesday* following *St. Chad's Day*, which is in the Beginning of March. . . .

“The Prize at *Kipling-Coates* was founded by a Body of Fox-hunters (appointing it to be annually run for on the third *Thursday* in *March*), who taking an Affection to the *Wolds* of that Part of *Yorkshire* (in some measure resembling the Downs of the Southern Counties) were pleased to deposite the Sums, from whence the Prize annually arises ; and although but sixteen Guineas, yet, as the time of Running for it is in the Infancy of the Season, 'tis looked upon as a proper Taste-Tryal, or Proof for Horses, how they have come through the Winter ; and many of considerable Form in the North have often started for the said Prize.

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1. Newmarket Articles for the Town Plate. ARTICLES ordered by His Majesty, to be observed by all Persons that put in Horses to ride for the Plate, the new Round Geate, at Newmarket, set out the 16th of October, in the seventeenth Year of our Sovereign Lord King Charles the Second ; which Plate is to be rode for yearly the second Thursday in October for ever. Anno Do. 1666.

To run three Heats. Entrance three Pounds. Every Horse deposits Twenty Shillings for every Heat, which the winning Horse shall have : And, The last Horse every Heat shall pay the second Horse's Heat and his own. If but two start, no Stakes. Weight twelve Stone, one Pound and a half for Waste. No serving Man or Groom to ride.

2. Farn[don] races came to an end in 1804, the racecourse being then utilised for other purposes.

“The ten Guineas at *Barham Downs* (appointed annually to be run for upon *Easter Tuesday*), is said to be founded by a well-meaning, publick-spirited Lady; who, at her leaving the World, was pleased to bequeath a Donation, from whence the Prize annually arises, in order to add Her Ladyship’s latest Mite toward the perpetual Support of the Spirit of those elegant Diversions.”

Another section of the Act concerned the Duty on Horses, a tax of which we are now fortunately entirely relieved. Ten shillings had to be paid each year in respect of every saddle or coach-horse, etc., “and for every horse, mare, or gelding, entered to start or run for any Plate, Prize, Sum of Money, or other thing whatsoever, the further sum of Two Pounds, two shillings.”

The Clerk of the Course was directed to collect these fees, receiving one shilling in the pound for his pains, and if he made default, he was liable to forfeit and pay double the amount of monies due, together with the sum of one hundred pounds.

It was further enacted that no horse being of the age of five years should be entered, and run for a race of any kind, unless he carried 10st.; that six-year-old horses should carry 11st., and seven-year-old horses 12st.; horses carrying less than the above weights to be forfeited, and the persons entering them to forfeit and lose the sum of £200.

Five years later (1745), such portion of the Act as related to the weights was repealed, as Parliament considered that the thirteen Royal Plates of 100gs. each, “as also the high “Prizes that are constantly given for Horses of Strength and “Size, are sufficient to encourage Breeders to raise their Cattle “to the utmost Size and Strength possible,” without legal intervention.

It will be observed that of necessity, in the absence of other recognised authority, Parliament had now taken the conduct of the turf more or less into its own hands, settling the minimum value of races, and the distances to be run by horses of five years old and upwards, those of a less age being ignored,

not being old enough to be deemed racehorses for the purposes of the Act.

A point in dispute at Bridgenorth (Salop) was to be " offered " to the Consideration of the Judges at Newmarket," another instance of disputants appealing to that tribunal, rather than to the Law.

**1741.** The Title-page of the *Calendar* had omitted all mention of racing in Wales since 1734, and this year, for the first time, " Plates and Prizes Run for in Great Britain " and Ireland " were included, though, singularly enough, no special mention was directed in the Preface, or elsewhere, to the fact that the racing in Ireland would henceforth be included in the work, and with the exception of the years 1798 and 1903-4 has been continued to the present day.

The advertisement pages conveyed the information that Cheny was now prepared to furnish his customers with pictures of thirty-six of the most celebrated horses that had been on the Turf, either in the form of prints at half-a crown each, water colours at four shillings each, or on canvas, painted in oil, at half-a-guinea each. By way of further augmenting his income, he gave notice that he sold " Superfine " Right DURHAM MUSTARD FLOWER ; by whom any " Persons may be furnished with any Quantities thereof, at " the lowest Prices."

**1742.** Cheny commenced his *Calendar* this year with a curious dissertation, extending to thirty-two pages, suggesting a varying system of penalties, so worded as not to exclude from running horses which had won a race, as it appears was the prevailing custom. He stated that he knew it was the opinion of nineteen out of twenty sportsmen that the weights as settled by the recent Act of Parliament were already so heavy as to " frequently prove of pernicious " Consequence to the Horses, and that adding more weight " must be adding to an Evil."

In his view the existing legal weights (10, 11, and 12 stones)



must prove injurious, and “every Degree of Weight, at least “when upward of eight or nine stone, has proportionable ill “Influence upon Horses by rendering them so much the more “obnoxious to Lamenesses, and tending sooner to drop them “both in their Speed and Goodness.”

He observed that if legislation had not fixed the high limit of £50 as the minimum value for a race, thereby substantially decreasing the number of meetings, horses would have been run at these high weights too often, and the country would have been flooded with cripples in consequence.

Notwithstanding this question of weight, he considered it was not desirable to debar horses from competing because they had won a race or two previously, as their relative superiority would then never be discovered, and advocated a system of penalties, in order to equalise their chances of winning, rather than the total exclusion of such horses.

Thus far Cheny was very many years in advance of his times, but it is also evident that he did not approve of racing horses before they were quite mature, and thought four-year-olds, which had recently made their first appearance on the turf, were scarcely old enough to withstand the exigencies of training; yet he was well aware that, from motives of expediency, his opinion on this subject would never be popular, and added:—

“I should never in the least believe, that letting Colts be unbroke till of Age of Maturity, and Running them no oftner afterward, than is consistent with Advantage, are Points that will ever appear in general practice.

“For, to be Master of a promising Colt, or an approv'd Horse, and to let one, the other, or both, lie dormant, when Sport's upon the Tapis, and Prizes are to be run for,

“Are such grating Sayings, that 'tis hard to hear them.”

Before leaving the subject of the weights legally fixed to be carried in races, it may be mentioned that at this date probably but few racehorses exceeded fifteen hands, and by far the greater number were considerably less in point of height. A ready proof is afforded by contemporary advertisements of

stallions, naturally the finest specimens of their kind, who were usually described as "full fourteen-three," or "near fifteen hands," and we know that their owners were not likely to have minimised their stature when setting forth their qualifications.

The famous horse Babraham, by the Godolphin Arabian out of the "Large Hartley Mare," is certainly described in the *General Stud Book* as being sixteen hands, but as it is the only case we know of a horse's height being mentioned therein, it may be assumed that it was considered to be a very exceptional circumstance. The original stud-card of Babraham is before us, and reproduces his "portraiture," with particulars of his pedigree and performances on the Turf. It states that Babraham was "a fine, strong horse, 16 hands high, "and master of 18 stone," and enumerates the various races he won in 1748, and that he also covered fifty-three mares the same year, adding "there are few instances of a horse, running in such "high form as he did, and Covering Mares the same season."

**1743.** In deference to the request of his subscribers, Cheny in many cases gave as complete pedigrees as he was able of a number of the principal runners, extending to fifty-six pages of his *Calendar*, thus making quite a little Stud Book of itself. It forms a most valuable history of many of the best horses of the early part of this century, which, but for his labours, would probably have been lost.

In the section devoted to Cock-fighting, Cheny announced that "the Earl of Meath and other Noblemen and Gentlemen "of Ireland, have matched against another confederacy of "Noblemen and Gentlemen, to fight a Cock-Match in Dublin, in "April, 1745, to shew forty-one cocks on each side, for forty "Guineas a battle, and a thousand the Main. The Earl of Meath "has purchased, and received, a hundred and twenty-four "chickens from Norfolk and Suffolk in order to fight this "Match."

It has already been mentioned that racing was being followed without any published Rules, and though the *Calendar* regularly provided "a List of the principal COCK-MATCHES "of the Year, and who were the Winners and Losers of them,"

no regulations concerning Cock-fighting had hitherto been given, though probably they were more or less familiar by tradition, or otherwise, to the enthusiastic votaries of the Pit, and possibly at some places may have been posted up in a conspicuous position.

This year, at the request of some of his patrons, Cheny published in his *Calendar*, "A Copy of the Rules and Orders of Cocking," but he gave no indication from whence he obtained them, and the inference is that they were in general use, doubtless having the sanction of antiquity.

These Rules are sufficiently curious to be reproduced *in extenso*, as his *Calendar* is rarely to be met with at the present time, as shewing how a very ancient, but now illegal, sport was conducted, merely remarking that up to this period, and for nearly a hundred years later, it was patronised by those of the very highest rank and position in the land, and occupied precisely the same place in popular estimation as did horse racing.

From a perusal of these Rules, it is evident betting was as much part and parcel of the affairs of the Pit as it was of the Turf, and very stringent measures were adopted towards defaulters, welshers being summarily dealt with under Rule XIII.

The Master of the Ceremonies at Court had scarcely a more responsible post than the Master of the Pit, who was required to be well versed in all the niceties of the game, as well as in questions of precedence, as "those of the better sort"<sup>1</sup> were entitled, according to their rank and importance, to be in the Lower or Second Ring, and room had to be made for them as required, so it was necessary for him to be invested with autocratic powers.

The provisions of the Bentinck Benevolent Fund were anticipated by more than a century, even if they were not put on a permanent basis by invested funds, when it was ordered that all fines connected with the sport of Cocking should be equally divided, one-half to go to "the Use of the Poor of the Parish, and the other Moiety to be distributed and

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1. Rule xv.

“disposed of as the Master of the Pit shall think fit, unto such “Feeders and ancient Breeders of Cocks as are or shall be “decay’d,”<sup>2</sup> a matter which argues great foresight and prescience on the part of the Master.

The procedure laid down for the punishment of defaulters<sup>3</sup> was somewhat after the fashion of “the godly discipline in “the primitive Church, when such persons as stood convicted “of notorious sin were put to open penance, so that others, “admonished by their example, might be the more afraid to “offend.” (*Communion Service, Book of Common Prayer.*)

#### RULES and ORDERS for COCKING.

*Imprimis.* IT is agreed, That every Man having Cocks to fight, shew and put them into the Pit with a fair Hackle, not too near shorn or cut, or any other Fraud, under pain of forfeiting, for every time so offending, Three Shillings and Four Pence; and his Cock to be put by from fighting that Year.

II. *Item*, That every Cock match’d, shall fight as he is first shew’d in the Pit, without *sheering* or *cutting* any Feathers afterwards to a Disadvantage, without the Consent of both Parties that made the Match, upon pain of forfeiting, for every time so offending, ten Shillings.

III. *Item*, That when two Cocks are set down to fight, and one of them run away before they have struck three *Mouthing Blows*, it is adjudged no *Battle* to the *Besters*.

IV. *Item*, That in all Matches, none shall presume to set too, but those that are appointed by the *Masters of the Match*.

V. *Item*, When a *Battle* shall come to setting too, and both Cocks refuse to fight ten times, according to the Law, then a *fresh Cock* to be hovell’d, and set to each Cock; and if one fight and the other refuse, then the fighting Cock to *win the Battle*; but if both fight, or both refuse, then it to be a *drawn Battle*: *Item*, That the *Crowing* of a Cock, or *Mantling* in his *Battle*, shall be adjudged no Fight; and if both be blind, although they peck and fight, yet they shall be set too, telling the *Law* betwixt every time.

VI. *Item*, That when Cocks are far spent, and come to setting together, it is ordered, That they shall be set too as followeth (that is to say) *Bill to Bill, if they both see*; but if either be blind, then the *blind Cock* to *touch*; if either be drawn neck’d, then his *Head* to be held fair, and even with the other Cock, so that the Party do his best in

setting too, to make his Cock fight ; *Provided*, That after they come to be set thus, as aforesaid, between every setting too they shall stay till one tell *Twenty* before they set too again, until the *Law* of two times are forth, and then to tell *Ten* but ten times.

VII. *Item*, It is ordered, That when a Cock is so hurt that any of the Pit shall lay ten Pounds to Five Shillings, that after the Cocks fighting shall be told twice *Twenty*, and if then no Man will take that Lay, then the *Battle* to be adjudged won on that Cock's side the Odds is on.

VIII. *Item*, That no Man shall make any Cavil or Speech about Matching of Cocks, either to the Matchers or the Owners of the Cocks, after the Cocks be once put together ; upon pain of forfeiting Five Shillings for every time so offending.

IX. *Item*, That all Losses in the Cockpit be presently paid down at the End of every Battle, before any other be fought ; or else, that the Party winning be satisfied before the Party losing go out of Doors ; and also, That every Man pay good current Money.

X. *Item*, Whosoever they be which shall put any Lay or *Bett* to Judgment, being in variance, they shall both stake down the Money laid on either side, and Six-Pence a-piece over ; and the Party that is adjudged to be in the wrong shall pay his *Bett*, and lose his Six-Pence ; *Provided*, That every Man speak freely, before Judgment given, what he thinks thereof ; and if any Man speak afterwards, he shall, for every such Offence in speaking, pay Six-Pence.

XI. *Item*, That all Betts, made either within or without the Pit, shall stand good ; and that one cannot go off without Consent of the other, and all Betts undemanded before the next Battle fights, to be lost.

XII. *Item*, If any Man, have made a Lay or *Bett*, and cannot tell, or call to mind, with whom he laid or betted such a Lay, then if he desire openly in the Pit, that the Party with whom he laid would give him the one half of the same, if he doth not confess it, and give him the one Half of the same, then it is allow'd, any one that knows the Bett to declare it, and the Party so *refusing to confess it*, shall pay the whole Bett ; *Provided*, That no Man may tell before the Party said he is contented to take as aforesaid ; but if any Man do tell him before the Party said he is content to take the Half of his Bett, then the Party, so telling, is to pay the said Lay or Bett.

XIII. *Item*, if any Man lay more Money than he hath to pay, or cannot satisfy the Party with whom he laid, either by his Credit or some Friend's Word ; the which if he cannot do, then he is to be put into a Basket, to be provided for that purpose, and to be hang'd up in that Basket in some convenient Place in the *Cockpit* that all Men



may know him, during the time of Play that Day : and also the Party so offending never to be *admitted* to come into the *Pit*, until he hath made satisfaction.

XIV. *Item*, That if any Man in a Pit shall proffer a *Bett*, and the *Party* that lays with him say *Done*, and he answers *Done* to him again, it shall be judged a lawful *Bett*.

XV. *Item*, It is ordered, That Persons of the better Rank and Quality of the *Cockers*, *Cock-Masters*, and *Gamesters*, such as are appointed to set too Cocks, and put them fair in, and no others (*without Permission of the Master of the Pit*) shall set in the lower Ring ; and that the said Master of the Pit shall have Authority at all times to remove such as he thinks not meet to set in the lower or second Ring ; and also to make room for those that are of the better sort, and to place them there at his Pleasure, according to his own Discretion.

XVI. *Item*, It is ordered, That all *Controversies* which arise, or come by means of the *Sport of Cock-Fighting*, upon any of the Orders above-written, or otherwise, between Party and Party, shall be determined by the Master of the Pit where the said *Controversy* did arise, with Six or Four of the ancient and best experienced Gamesters there, being called, *by the Consent of both Parties*, to assist him therein.

XVII. *Item*, That none shall strike, or draw Weapon to strike any Man, upon pain, for every time so offending, to forfeit *Forty Shillings*.

XVIII. *Item*, For the better Observation of all the Orders before written, *It is ordered and agreed*, That if any Person shall offend in any of the said *Premises*, he *presently pay his Forfeiture* ; the which, being adjudged, if he shall refuse to do, then the *Party* so refusing to be banish'd, until he *satisfy* the Forfeiture by him so committed, or the *Party* so offended.

XIX. *Item*, It is ordered, That the Forfeitures aforesaid shall be equally divided, the one Moiety thereof to be paid to the Use of the Poor of the Parish, and the other Moiety to be distributed and disposed of, as the Master of the Pit shall think fit, unto such Feeders and ancient Breeders of Cocks as are or shall be decay'd.

1744. The well-known horse Sedbury was advertised to cover at five guineas (subsequently reduced to three guineas), otherwise the usual fee for thoroughbred stallions was one guinea, and a shilling for the servant. Ten years afterwards, fees had increased ; three guineas being now the price of the more fashionable sires, the others remain-

ing at a guinea, and naturally only the best horses of the day would have been advertised in the *Calendar*, the remainder covering at still lower sums.

“The following Rules relating to the Methods of Matching “and fighting of Cocks in *London*, said to have been in Practice “there ever since the Reign of King *Charles* the Second,” were first published this year, and re-printed in every *Calendar* till the year 1805 :—

Which Methods in fighting of a Main are,

To begin the same by fighting the lightest Pair of Cocks (which fall in Match) first, proceeding upward, to the End ; that every lighter Pair may fight earlier than those which are heavier.

In matching (with relation to the Battles), it is a rule always in *London*,

That after the Cocks for the Main are weighed, and the Match Bills are compar'd,

That every Pair of Dead or equal Weight, are separated, and fight against others, provided that it appears that the Main can be enlarg'd, by adding thereto, either one Battle or more thereby.

The lengthy pedigrees in the index were continued in this volume, and it is probable that most of the errors which are inseparable from such information would have been pointed out at the time, which must have greatly contributed towards their accuracy. A further aid to the preservation of pedigrees of this period was the custom, which first began the previous year, of advertising stallions in the *Calendar*, and as very full particulars of their breeding were given, frequently signed and vouched for by their owners, they were thus placed on record for all time, long before the *General Stud Book* was ever contemplated.

An examination of these advertisements shews the almost universal infusion of Eastern blood at this time, in the breeding of practically every stallion of repute, which, grafted on to native stock, then produced our unrivalled breed of racehorses, but for some reason Nature does not permit the renovation to be repeated.

Possibly the earlier crosses with the Arabian, and kindred

elegant breeds, infused into our native mares the quality which they may have lacked, and that once the necessary refinement and symmetry was acquired, improvement was no longer to be derived from this source.

If the Arab can be said to have obtained the zenith of its success by about 1750, its decline in popularity must have set in with great rapidity, for by 1782 those "by Arabians" were actually allowed 3lb. in the Cumberland Stakes at the First Spring Meeting at Newmarket. Less than fifty years later we find the well-known Turf writer, Hanckey Smith, stating that no one could help "feeling surprised that the "Arabian and foreign blood, which was in past times so highly, "and so justly esteemed, should now be entirely out of fashion, "and that no man who merely breeds would, of course, ever "think at present of putting a mare to any Arab, because he "could not dispose of the produce."

The only mares from Arab dams that we can recall at the moment whose produce have even appeared on a racecourse in recent days, are Lord Zetland's Jael, by Friary (whose produce Sisera II. and Ace of Diamonds, actually won two races each),<sup>1</sup> and Ziba, by Fetterlock, dam of Pantaguesta (winner of a two-year-old race at Baldoye), and whose good-looking stock have figured successfully in the yearling classes at the Royal Dublin Show. Sub Rosa, a daughter of Jael, and consequently one degree further removed from the Arab, has had three produce of better class than her dam, including Mashed Potato, one of the early two-year-old winners of the present season.

It should, however, be remarked that every endeavour was made to encourage the breeders of Arabian stock, and continued long after their case was found to be hopeless. It even lingered until 1919 in the conditions of one of our principal two-year-old races, the Hopeful Stakes at the Newmarket First October Meeting, in which "those got by Arabians, or "out of Arabian mares," were allowed 14lb.; and also in the retention of Arabians in the *General Stud Book*, which can

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1. Doubtful Character, out of Jael, is a winner this season.

only be on account of favours long past, and not for their utility at the present time.

As an instance of the extraordinary partiality which has been extended to horses of Eastern descent, reference may be made to the advertisement of the race for the Goodwood Cup about the middle of last century, when "horses got by Arabian, "Turkish, or Persian stallions" were allowed 18lb., and if out of mares of the same breeds, a further 18lb. No doubt for the purposes of this, and other races, a Barb ranked as an Arab, and in later years the word Barb was used instead of Persian, which was dropped.

While dealing with this particular race, it may be remarked that the penalties and allowances in connection with it take up an entire page, in very small print, of "Races to Come," and it must have required a Turf Babbage to have correctly arrived at the weight to be carried by certain horses. In order to attract entries from a distance, horses bred in America, on or the Continent, were allowed a stone, and those from Scotland or Ireland, 7lb.; horses that had run during the year at specified meetings in the North of England were allowed 3lb; and those that had run at Liverpool, or far-off Newcastle-on-Tyne, 2lb. in addition.

In view of the recent irksome restrictions imposed by the outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease, it may be interesting to recall that the *Calendar* of this year contained a notice that:—

the direful Distemper attending the horned Cattle, induced the Magistrates to prohibit Racing at this Town of *Morpeth*, as also at the City of *Durham*, at the City of *Carlisle*, at *Newcastle upon Tyne*, at *Bishop Auckland*, at *Stockton upon Tees*, at *Chester-le-Street*, etc., and there has this year been no Race at either of these Places.

**1751.** On the death of Cheny, who, as we have seen, had originated the *Racing Calendar* in 1727, and carried it on up to the time of his decease this year, two opposition compilers at once took the field in the persons of John Pond and Reginald Heber, and besought the patronage

of sportsmen. The former was an auctioneer of sporting proclivities at Newmarket, and Bridges Street, Covent Garden, London, but little is known of Heber, who probably was related to the well-known family of that name at Hodnet, in Shropshire, from whence came his namesake the Bishop.

Each, it is very evident, was firmly impressed with the idea that it was impossible to improve on the labours and style of their predecessor, consequently their respective *Calendars* were merely continuations of the old one, the only apparent difference being a new name on the title page, and the fact that Pond called his book a *Sporting Kalendar*.

Otherwise, in size, shape, contents, and phraseology, the work remained the same, and it will be seen *sans changer*, has, with certain compulsory modifications, been the rule of each author in successive ages down to the present day, appealing to the conservatism of its patrons, who certainly would not approve of unnecessary alterations in a book which has for them so many old associations.

It may be observed that like both Pond and Tuting, Heber appears to have been an owner of racehorses, for at Epsom in 1742, "Mr. Heber's Trumpeter beat Mr. Kingston's "Driver, fourteen stone, the best of three Heats, for fifty "guineas." A reference to the list of subscribers to that year's volume of the *Racing Calendar* shews the name of Reginald Heber, so doubtless the owner of Trumpeter was identical with the future compiler of the *Calendar*.

To notice each of these rival publications in turn, Pond in his preface pays a due tribute to "the late Mr. Cheny, undoubtedly the first Person who treated upon a Work of this "Nature," and hoped from "his constant Attendance on "public Diversions " his book would meet with "the Approbation of my Noble and Worthy Subscribers." The list of them was headed by

"HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE,"

and in this singular abbreviated description of the Duke of Cumberland, Pond merely followed the lead of the Book of



Common Prayer of that date, for under the self-same designation, prayers were offered in the Litany and Collects every Sunday for the Royal breeder of both Eclipse and Herod, to whose patronage the Turf owes so lasting a debt. The Duke's horses were invariably entered for races in like manner, and while in the index to Pond's book they took precedence of all others, Heber placed them under the letter D.

Even in the revised edition of Vol. I. of the *General Stud Book*, issued so recently as 1891, the horse Crab is simply described as "The Duke's," to distinguish him from others of the same name.

Pond's *Kalendar* commenced, as was right and proper, with quite a comprehensive list of fifty-one "Rules concerning Racing in general," with certain definitions of various terms connected with it, preceded by the announcement that horses take their age from May-day. This is the earliest date of the publication of any regular Rules of Racing, and as they were the only code extant for the next hundred years, other than those governing a very few local meetings, Pond deserves infinite credit for having compiled them, and it is difficult to understand why these Rules were not reproduced in all subsequent *Calendars* previous to 1797, when they again occupied their original place, or how racing could have been conducted without uniform rules meantime. It may also be noted that Pond's Rules were incorporated by name in the official *Irish Racing Calendar*, which commenced in 1789.

Being a Newmarket man, Pond probably set down the laws of racing as observed there at that period, and they are the more interesting on that account. It will be noticed all through these rules that questions concerning betting are interwoven with other matters, and it is apparent were regarded as inseparable from racing.

Pond, following his vocation of "constant Attendance on public diversions," was at Rugby Races in June, and thus records his personal part in the day's amusement :—

A Gentleman run on Foot 50 Yards against a Galloway rode by me.

12 Hands and a half high. The Galloway won hollow : We run a second Match, 50 Yards, both turned, and run the 50 Yards back again. The Galloway was beat by an Obstruction in turning.

The sport this month as recorded in the *Racing Calendar* is concluded in a unique manner by giving :—

THE ACCOUNT OF THE THREE GRAND CRICKET MATCHES  
PLAYED AT NEWMARKET, BETWEEN ETON AND ALL  
ENGLAND.

First Match.

| England.            |            | Eton.               |            |
|---------------------|------------|---------------------|------------|
| First inning .....  | 93         | First inning .....  | 53         |
| Second inning ..... | 101        | Second inning ..... | 104        |
|                     | <u>194</u> |                     | <u>157</u> |
|                     | 157        |                     |            |
| England won by ..   | 37         |                     |            |

Second Match.

|                     |            |                   |            |
|---------------------|------------|-------------------|------------|
| First inning .....  | 51         | .....             | 168        |
| Second inning ..... | 114        | .....             | 67         |
|                     | <u>165</u> |                   | <u>235</u> |
|                     |            |                   | 165        |
|                     |            | Eton won by ..... | 70         |

Third Match.

|                     |            |       |            |
|---------------------|------------|-------|------------|
| First inning .....  | 109        | ..... | 46         |
| Second inning ..... | 133        | ..... | 101        |
|                     | <u>242</u> |       | <u>147</u> |
|                     | 147        |       |            |
| England won by ..   | 95         |       |            |

The Earl of March (better known later as the Duke of Queensberry) was Captain for All England, and the Earl of Sandwich for Eton. The match was for £1,500, “the gainers of two games in three to be the winner.”

By the Act of Parliament in force at this period, which had been passed in 1740, fines of £200 were imposed on persons who had participated in races of a less value than £50, and accordingly, with much consideration, Mr. Pond announced “I have omitted inserting those Plates where the Persons “who have started for them are subject to a Penalty of 200 “Pound.”

Of these fines, half the amount went to the Poor of the Parish where the offence was committed, and half to the informer, except in the County of Somerset, where it was enacted that one-half the penalty was "to be applied to and for the Use "and Benefit of the poor Persons admitted into the Hospital "lately erected in the City of *Bath* for the Benefit of poor "Persons resorting to the said City for the Benefit of the "mineral Waters there."

At the end of the volume, Pond supplied a list of the Matches which had been run at Newmarket from October 1st, 1718, to October 1st, 1751, when henceforth his *Calendar* continued the record in more detail. This chronicle affords very valuable information as to the distances and weights which were in favour in the first half of the eighteenth century, and has proved an inexhaustible mine of information for turf historians of all ages, who owe him a great debt of gratitude.

It will be observed as a general rule that the earlier the date, the longer the course, four miles being the popular distance, though occasionally it was extended to six, and even eight miles, while the weights usually ranged between eight and ten stone.

At Newmarket, to this day, Six-Mile-Bottom marks the place from which races over six miles were started, and there was also an eight-mile post beyond, for races decided over that distance. From the Diary of the first Lord Bristol (1665-1751), kindly lent by the present Marquess, it will be seen that eight miles was a frequent distance for a race, and over it he made three Matches at Newmarket against the Duke of Kingston's white mare Piping Peg (grand-dam of Brocklesby Betty), for 500 gs., beating her twice, and receiving half-forfeit for the third. Further, from the sub-joined letter from my lord to his lady, it would appear that horses were not always only required actually to race for the final furlong or two, having merely cantered till the winning post was in sight, as is commonly supposed.

1698, April 4th, NEWMARKET.

My ever-new Delight,

Whether twas thy dear picture, or the postscript which told me how strong your good wishes were for my better fortune, have turned ye tide of my ill-luck, I cannot tell ; but one or both together have at last prevail'd ; for yesterday Turk [the King's] did not only win ye 100 guineas I back'd him for, but honest Lobcock, by ye most supernatural invincible goodness that ever was shown in any creature, at last better'd Looby [Duke of Devonshire's] tho' he run much too fast for him, and had him beat ye first 7 mile of ye 8 they run ; but upon Lobcocks being whipt and spurr'd from shoulder to flank, he at last conquered his adversary, and wonn us 325 guineys ; ye odd 25 was a bett ye King made with me against Lobcock, who was more pleas'd with this match than all he ever saw before.

I have been ye more particular in this relation, becaus I am sure twill be some satisfaction to thee to know how much this victory must have pleas'd me ; which ended it did more than any match did before, because it succeeded almost to a yard according to ye presumption on which I made it. . . . .

Some fifty years previously an attempt was made at Newmarket to race under much heavier weights than the customary ones of from eight to ten stone, and by the following letter, taken from the Earl of Lonsdale's MSS., published by the Historical Manuscripts Commission, it will be seen that in one instance the weights were raised even 2st. above the standard in use for King's Plates, which was 12st. :—

[Robert 3rd] Lord Lucas to (John) Viscount Lonsdale.<sup>1</sup>  
1698, November 1st. TOWER.

. . . . . Wee have set up a fourteen stone Plate at Newmarket, the first horse One hundred pounds vlew in Plate besides the fashion, the Second Horse fifty pounds the subscriptions are almost full."

The following advertisement of the race appeared in the *London Gazette*, September, 1699, No. 3,530 :—

<sup>2</sup>The new 14 Stone Plate of £100 intrinsick value (to encourage the breeding of Strong and Useful Horses) will be run for at Newmarket in Cambridgeshire, 3 Heats, and a Course, upon the first Tuesday in October during the Term of the Subscriptions : Every Horse to carry 14 Stone weight, and only Gentlemen to ride ; nor any Horse to run

1. Earl of Lonsdale's MSS. p. 111.

2. Hore's *History of Newmarket*, Vol. iii., p. 227.

that ever ran for above the value of £20. What Money of the Subscriptions (if any) is over the value of the Plate, will be for the Benefit of the second Horse; And all Horses that run are to be enter'd at Newmarket with the Clerk of the Course the day before the Plate is run for, at 4 in the afternoon.

Some curious entries will be found amongst these numerous records of old Matches, which Pond collected in his first volume.

Thus at Newmarket on 1st May, 1724, we find "Mr. Stanhope's Chaise and Pair beat Lord Essex's Chaise and Pair. "1 Mile. 100 guineas, half forfeit." The two Matches made by Tregonwell Frampton with his bigger and lesser Mules, against Mr. Vane's grey Costly, who won each Match, for 100 guineas, 9 stone, 6 miles, need some explanation, which is afforded by his Will, in which he especially excepted from a bequest of his horses "a brown horse called The Mule, nominated to be given by me to the Marquis of Blandford," and bears the date 5th March, 1727.

It is likewise recorded that Thomas Butler, Running-Footman to the Earl of Sunderland, walked six miles and four hundred yards at Newmarket within the hour, for fifty guineas. In March, 1746, our compiler Mr. Pond's Skewbald beat Mr. Pembroke's bay Lincoln, 10 stone, 1 mile, 100 guineas, half forfeit.

A special historical note at the end of the Calendar relates that :

[Flying] Childers [foaled 1715] "run a Trial Match against Almanza and Brown Betty over the round Course at Newmarket (which measures three Miles and three Quarters) in six Minutes and forty-eight Seconds, he kept them Company for two Miles before he left them, was timed by their Graces the late Dukes of Rutland and Devonshire, though this is not the shortest Time it is imagined it could be run in, yet it is one Minute less than any Horse now in being can perform it in.

Childers carry'd nine Stone two Pound, Almanza and Brown Betty eight Stone two Pound each.

There has always been an impression that Childers' greatest performance was on the trial ground, rather than the race-



course, and singular confirmation of this belief was afforded by an old "Tryal-Book," kindly lent by the Duke of Devonshire, in which is actually recorded the particulars of Childers' great trial with Fox :—

May y<sup>e</sup> 10th, 1722. Childers & Fox Run over y<sup>e</sup> Long Corse, Childers carried 9st. & Fox 8st. Childers beat Fox a Distance & Half.

Admiral Rous, who unearthed this old book, and presented it to the late Duke, appended the note :—"The most interesting account of a great trial." He further wrote the following inscription inside the cover :—

Admiral Rous presents the old Devonshire trial book to the Marquis of Hartington, and wishes him to bring out a second Childers.

H. J. ROUS.

13 Berkeley Square, May 26th, 1863.

A race was advertised to be run at Newmarket on April 1st, 1752, with the following conditions, and is remarkable as containing the first mention of the Jockey Club :—

A Contribution Free Plate, by Horses the Property of the Noblemen and Gentlemen belonging to the JOCKY CLUB at the *Star and Garter* in *Pall Mall*, one Heat over the Round Course, weight eight Stone, seven Pound.

The circumstances relating to the foundation of the Jockey Club are apparently not known, nor can the exact date of its inception be ascertained, or a list of the original members. The above notice in Pond's *Kalendar* is the first public allusion to the existence of the Club, and but for him we should not know it had been founded by this early date, for Heber, singularly enough, has no notice of this race in his publication for this year. It is evident the "Star and Garter" was their first headquarters, the Newmarket Rooms being acquired some twenty years later, and 1750 may be taken as the probable date of the formation of the Club.

The actual race above named took place at Newmarket on the 4th of April, 1752, and was won by Captain Vernon's grey horse, Beau, by Cartouch, from four others, and marks the beginning of the activities of the Club.

Almost the earliest notice of the Jockey Club acting in a judicial capacity will be found in a letter from Sir William Musgrave to Lord Carlisle,<sup>1</sup> dated London, Dec. 11, 1767:

The Jockey Club met on Saturday last to expel a Mr. Brereton for charging Meynell and Vernon with cheating at play.

Mr. Brereton is the gentleman whom Lady Sarah Bunbury stigmatised as a "sad vulgar" in her letter to George Selwyn describing the occurrence.

**1752.** September was but a very short racing month this year, and it will be noticed that at the Stockton Meeting, Wednesday, the 2nd September, was followed by Thursday, the 14th "New Style," the intervening days being obliterated. It had long been recognised that in course of ages, Time no longer corresponded with the seasons, but had fallen behind, and so far back as 1582 Pope Gregory XIII. had ordered that October 5th in that year should be called the 15th, but as the edict emanated from Rome, we would have none of it in this country.

An alteration in the reckoning had at length become imperative, and finally by Act of Parliament, after much opposition, the day following the 2nd of September, 1752, was ordered to be called the 14th (an additional day having been lost since Pope Gregory's time), and one can readily understand that people considered the Government had cheated them, not only out of eleven days of racing, but of life itself, almost occasioning riots in consequence.

This readjustment of the Calendar has affected even our own times, though the reason is often forgotten. From early ages the 11th November, Martinmas Day, in the North had marked the end of the labourer's year of servitude, when he received the balance of his wages, and was free to make a fresh contract for the next season.

In 1752, however, when the men came for their money on the 11th November, the Northern farmer said he knew better than to pay a year's wages for three hundred and fifty-four

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1. Earl of Carlisle MSS., p. 222.

days' work, and accordingly required them to toil eleven days more before receiving their pay. Consequently from that date to the present time, Martinmas Day, for the North of England at any rate, has been the 23rd of the month, eleven days after the Festival of St. Martin proper.

**1753.** Weight-for-age races were now regularly run, and it may be noted that horses of seven years old and upwards were usually set to give 9lb., 11lb., and frequently 14lb. to six-year-olds, who in turn gave 10lb. to 14lb. to five-year-olds; four-year-olds carrying proportionately less, and those that had not won a race were occasionally favoured 6lb.

At Epsom, Mr. Lamago's Spanker, 9st., beat Mr. Threadkill's Grey Mare, 8st. 7lb., for £50, the winner to have both horses. Curiously enough, a three-cornered contest on somewhat similar lines was contemplated only some five or six years ago, but fell through, as one of the owners concerned, though indifferent to the possible loss of his money, was unwilling to risk losing his horse.

In a Match at Newmarket between horses belonging to such celebrities as Mr. Richard Vernon and Mr. Thomas Panton, the Master of the Horse, a primitive form of handicapping was employed, one horse being started a distance (240 yards) before the other, instead of receiving weight; the same system obtained at Lincoln races, and at York in 1778, when the notorious Colonel Thornton, riding himself, gave his opponent a distance, and beat him over a four-mile course.

It is recorded that at Newmarket on April 27th :—

Earl Gower's Bay Horse Moorelander, and Captain Vernon's Brown Horse, Surley, run over the Beacon Course, Weight nine Stone each, for fifty Pounds, they came in so near together, that it could not be determined by Bye-standers which had won (no Person being appointed Judge) therefore it was rendered a drawn Match.

At the Newmarket Second Meeting, held in May, two Plates were run confined to horses the property of Members of the Jockey Club.

**1754.** On Monday, April 22, a singular Match against Time was run at Newmarket, when :—

*Mr. Corker's* bay Mare, about fourteen Hands high, started for the Match of three hundred Miles in three Days, for one hundred Pounds. It was rode by one Boy all the way, wt. five Stone one Pound, exclusive of Bridle and Saddle ; it went backward and forward from the six-mile-House to the Ending-Post of the Beacon Course, and had seven Hours and forty Minutes to spare."

*Monday*, twenty-four Miles and bated, twenty-four more and bated, and forty-eight without bating.

*Tuesday*, twenty-four Miles and bated, twenty-four and bated, twenty-four and bated, and thirty-six without bating.

*Wednesday*, twenty-four Miles and bated, twenty-four more and bated, and forty-eight without bating. She did not gallop above six Miles in the Match.

The published conditions of this match allowed for the mare being "rode, led, or drove," and evidently the owner finally elected to have her ridden.

It is worthy of note that the 100-Guinea Plate, for four-year-olds, the property of Members of "the Jockey Club," was won this year by H.R.H. the Duke's Marske, the sire of Eclipse.

At Newmarket in September, when Lord Orford's Snip won a Match, four miles over the Round Course, the *Calendar* particularly noted that he "was rode by a Boy without Whip "or Spur."

**1756.** Reference is made to the fact that "the Judges" could not determine the result of a race run over the Beacon Course at Newmarket, so it is evident that up to this date the Jockey Club had not appointed any one person to act as sole judge at the meetings, though occasionally only one officiated, as in the case of a Plate at Newmarket in 1754, when Heber states the horses "were so near together *Mr. Deard*, the Judge, could not decide it."

At the Bury meeting, in Suffolk, explicit conditions were laid down to ensure that only "real hunters" should be

qualified to enter, and they must have been "fairly rode with Hounds to the death of at least six Brace of Hares, or two Brace of Foxes, or two Brace of Deers," a kind of scale of endurance and capability, and at other places also a similar qualification was imposed.<sup>1</sup>

Amongst the advertisements of Horses for Sale, at the end of the volume, will be found the entire stud of Sir William St. Quintin, Bart., of Scampston, East Yorks., the first lot being an unnamed bay mare, six years old, got by Blaze, her dam by Bethell's Arabian. This Blaze mare was bought the following spring by the Duke of Cumberland, who named her Cypron, and for whom she bred the great (King) Herod, a lucky purchase from a sale list. Several years later, to mark his appreciation of his fortunate bargain, the Duke instructed Sawrey Gilpin, the then famous animal painter, to depict the mare, surrounded by her ten blaze-faced progeny, and presented the beautiful picture to Sir William, which is still at Scampston, together with another of King Herod by the same artist.

The Duke thus had in his stud both the sire and dam of Eclipse, and the dam of Herod, so has exercised a far greater influence on the future of the thoroughbred horse than any other breeder before or since his day.

This season three-year-olds were run for the first time at Newmarket, a Fifty Pound Plate being given for horses of this age at the October Meeting. The innovation met with success, nine starting for the race, which was won by Lord Albemarle Bertie's unnamed Grey Filly, who is entered as Sprightly in the first volume of the *Stud Book*.

Probably agreeing with Cheny's remarks on the subject, as made in the year 1742, on the folly of running immature horses, Pond evidently regarded this race merely as an experiment, or a freak, hardly to be taken seriously, and instead of returning the filly in his Winning List under her

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1. page 101.



proper age, put her amongst the four-year-olds, adding the words "three-years-old" after her name.

Hitherto no three-year-olds had run, save in the races at Bedale in 1731 and 1732, noticed under those years.

A possible exception, however, will be found in the original issue of the *General Stud Book* of 1791 (and repeated in the revised edition of a hundred years later), it being stated that :

BONNY BLACK, Duke of Rutland's, 1715, by Black Hearty (son of the Byerly Turk), dam by a Persian stallion. Bonny Black was the best runner of her time ; at three years old, she beat a six-years-old horse, at 10st. each ; at four years old, she won the five-years-old Hambleton Cup (King's Plate), and again at five years old ; at six years old, she beat an aged horse, giving him 3 st. Her owner afterwards challenged to run four times over the Round Course at Newmarket, against any horse or mare in the kingdom, which challenge not being accepted, she became a brood mare in the Duke of Rutland's stud, but there is no record of any of her produce, except the filly by Cyprus Arabian.

But evidence is forthcoming that confusion has here arisen between this Bonny Black and an older mare of the same name, who must have been born about ten years earlier, both belonging to the Duke of Rutland, and some of whose performances have been erroneously ascribed to the above mentioned mare, foaled in 1715.

It so happens that the turf career of the first Bonny Black can be established beyond question, inasmuch as she was painted for (Edward) Lord Harley in 1715, by John Wootton, who probably copied the picture, more or less, from one he had done of her for the Duke of Rutland in 1711, as entered in the Belvoir Castle accounts, under date 30th September of that year, £40 being the cost of the work. Wootton, apparently, was so impressed with the achievements of the mare, that he inscribed them on a scroll which formed part of the actual picture, as under :—

Bonny Black att three years old beat a full ag'd Horse of Mr. Frampton's, three miles & a half att tenn Stone Weight.

At four years old and a half She won y<sup>e</sup> Prince's gold cup att

Newmarket against Mares of Six years old and a half. After that She won two Gold Cups against Mares of her own Age.

At Six years old she beat a Horse of Lord Harvey's Full aged call'd Merry Man & gave him three Pound Weight Tho' the Horse was the Fleeter.

She offer'd to Run wth any Horse in England four times round the Heat being Sixteen miles without Rubing.

The scroll certainly shews the mare to have run as a three-year-old, but no date is given, and if the Match in question was run at the Spring Meeting at Newmarket, Bonny Black would really have been a four-year-old, though called "three" in those days, until the 1st of May. Indeed it is highly improbable the Duke would have allowed a three year old to run, it being so contrary to the tenets of the day, or even had so young an animal in training at all. Further, it also testifies that the Bonny Black of the painting was the one whose owner challenged to run her four times over the Round Course at Newmarket, and not the mare accredited in the *Stud Book*.

The younger Bonny Black also exhibited remarkable precocity in her turn, as when only actually four years old, she won the great race for five-year-old Mares at Hambleton in 1719, and although being at a year's disadvantage in age, beat a field of thirty runners, said to be the largest number which up to that time had ever started for a race, and further won the same event the following year, being then of the correct age.

These performances caused her to be the most famous mare of her day, and it will be noticed elsewhere that her direct descendant Val d'Or won the Eclipse Stakes as recently as 1905.

It might well be thought that to have two mares of the same name, most probably mother and daughter, argues a lamentable lack of invention on the part of their owner, but the custom prevailed at the time, despite its obvious drawbacks, and indeed among the descendants of Bonny Black, we find that her grand-daughter Chicken, by Childers, had a

daughter called Chicken, and a generation or so later, Lucy, by Spectator, also had a filly of the same name.

The confusion in the turf careers of these two mares evidently occurred some thirty years after the birth of the younger mare, when a series of pictures of celebrated horses was published, and, quite in error, Wootton's picture of the first Bonny Black was taken to represent the second one. Naturally, the performances as set forth on the canvas were reproduced, and the more recent brilliant exploits of the younger mare were added, hence the mistake that has arisen in connection, which, however, can be easily accounted for, now that the record of Wootton's picture is available.

It is true that amongst the matches at Newmarket in October, 1718, "The Duke of Rutland's black Filly beat "Mr. Frampton's Woodstock Hunter, eight stone, seven pound, "four miles, fifty Guineas." but there is nothing to connect this filly with Bonny Black, save her colour, and in response to an enquiry, Messrs. Weatherby were unable to supply any further information.

In the next Calendar (1757) Pond again included the winner of the Three-year-old race, mentioned on page 134, in his table of four-year-olds, qualifying the entry with the words "rising four," by way of glossing over what he evidently considered an outrage. As horses at that time took their ages from the 1st of May, this "rising four-year-old" was but three years and five months old, so his description was misleading, and it might easily be overlooked that any horse younger than four years old had run in either of these years.

Until 1761, when a similar one was provided at Newcastle, this race at the October Meeting at Newmarket was the only event in the Kingdom open to three-year-olds, so deeply rooted was the idea that mature horses, heavy weights, and long distances were the sheet-anchors of the Turf; the opposite course leading to the speedy deterioration of the thoroughbred horse, and greatly to be deprecated by all who had the best interests of the sport at heart.

**1757.** A dispute having arisen at the Curragh Meeting, the decision was left to the Jockey Club at Newmarket, shewing how rapidly its influence was extending beyond its immediate jurisdiction, even reaching to Ireland.

Amongst the Plates and Matches to be run at Newmarket First Spring Meeting in 1758, will be found the following singular announcement :—

Miss Pond is to ride a Horse, now named, Four Years Old, one thousand Miles in one thousand Hours, to start at any Time before the 3d May, 1758, on giving forty-eight Hours Notice, and to be performed within seventy Miles of London, for two hundred Guineas, half forfeit.

Miss Pond was popularly supposed to have accomplished this feat, and Pond on a subsequent occasion claimed to have ridden the same horse a like distance in two-thirds of the time, but both their exploits are open to suspicion, and it is certain that they did not receive the same credence as the two or three other historical Matches against Time which took place at Newmarket under accredited conditions.

For some reason unknown, *Pond's Calendar* was not issued after this year, and henceforth Heber carried on his work without further opposition. Pond appears to have died about 1768, the same year as his rival compiler.

**1751.** *Heber's Calendar*, which, following Cheny, he called "An Historical List of Horse-Matches Run," appeared simultaneously with Pond's first volume, and recorded the racing of the season 1751. In his preface he expresses his "most grateful Devoirs to my noble and worthy Patrons," and promised that in "the series of years during which I shall by the Divine Permission continue this work," he would publish such pedigrees as he could obtain for the benefit of posterity, and concluded by assuring his "Munificent and Voluntary Subscribers" that he should do his best to warrant a renewal of their favours.

With such lofty aspirations Heber started his *Calendar*, which only terminated on his decease in 1768. He copied the title-

page and contents of Cheny's book to the last comma, and it appeared there was then no law of copyright to prevent such literary piracy, beyond each man's feelings as to what was right in the matter.

Heber fulfilled his promise by devoting several pages to the pedigrees of certain horses that had run during the year, and stated that, paraphrasing Horace, he was fully aware of the necessity of preserving them, for he observed :—

“ 'Tis from the Noble and the Good  
A gallant Race proceeds ;  
So the strong Herds, a gen'rous Brood,  
The Barb a Barb succeeds.”

A very important Match was reported this year at the Curragh, Kildare, when Sir Ralph Gore's black horse Othello (commonly called Black-and-All-Black) by Crab, 10st, beat Lord March's Bajazet, by the Godolphin Arabian, 10st. 7lb., four miles, for one thousand guineas.

The races at Epsom this season were held from the 14th to the 18th of May, but the promoters of the Meeting, having an eye to the main chance, imposed the conditions that all horses which ran for any of the Plates were obliged to be at Epsom on the 1st of May, and there continue till the day of running ; to stand at the stables of persons who had subscribed three guineas towards the races, and to be plated by subscribers resident in Epsom.

**1753.** In the return of the April Meeting at Newmarket, in a particular instance it is remarked that “Crossing and Jostling was barred in this Match,” and the same injunction prevailed at Stamford Meeting. Pond in his Rules of Racing said these practices were allowed unless there were agreement to the contrary, but it is surprising to find such riding tolerated at Newmarket, even at this early date.

At the Curragh Meeting the same month :—

A little Mare of Mr. *Spedding's* run Twenty times round the five Miles Course in twelve Hours and a Half for a hundred Guineas, half forfeit. She was allowed thirteen Hours to do it in, and the next



Morning, on another Bet of a hundred Guineas she run the Same Ground to a Minute, rode both Days by a Boy of Lord *Antrim's*. The Mare was bought by Mr. *Spedding* for Two-pence a Pound on the Course.

Assuming the mare weighed 8 cwt., she cost £7 9s. 4d., so proved a very cheap purchase to her new owner.

**1756.** Amongst the Cock Matches to be fought the next year, mention is made of two very important Mains, between Lord Sandwich and Lord Stamford, the first to be fought at Huntingdon on the 26th July and the following days, and the other at Lichfield at the time of the races, showing eleven on each side, at each place, for 100 guineas a battle, and 1,000 guineas each odd battle, the Cocks to be from 3lb. 14oz. to 4lb., to give and take an ounce.

**1758.** This year is remarkable for the issue of the first authoritative order of the Jockey Club, when it was “agreed to by the Noblemen and Gentlemen present, that “every Person who shall Ride at Newmarket, for Plate, Sweep-stakes or Match, shall be obliged to Weigh when he comes in, “allowing Two Pounds above the Weight, and no more. That “every Rider who shall neglect to obey this Resolution is “guilty of Contempt of the Order of this CLUB, and shall be “disqualified from Riding hereafter at Newmarket, unless any “Gentleman, or his Rider, shall declare before starting that “the Rider is above the Weight allowed of by the aforesaid “Resolution.” Thus it is clear that at this date racing affairs at Newmarket were entirely in the hands of the Jockey Club, with supreme powers of control.

Heber now announced that in addition to his books of racing, he was in a position to supply fine, “mild *York River* “and *Oroonoko* Tobaccos, also the best *Strasburg* and *Dutch* “*Rappee* Snuffs, etc., etc., etc., etc., the finest *Durham Flower* “of Mustard, and right *Woodstock* Gloves.”

**1759.** At Newmarket April Meeting, “A Match was run, “one Mile (called *Rowley's* Mile) between Sir *J. Moor's* “filly, and Mr. *Vernon's* Colt, weight 8st., for 50 Pound, and

“deem’d a drawn Match, the two Persons that were appointed  
 “Judges differing in Opinions, one declaring Sir *John* won, and  
 “the other that Mr. *Vernon* won.”

At York Meeting, in August, Lord Rockingham’s Whistle-jacket beat Mr. Turner’s Brutus, one four-mile heat, 9st. each, for two thousand guineas.<sup>1</sup>

**1760.** The list of subscribers to the *Racing Calendar* this year contains for the last time the name of [Laurence, 4th] Earl Ferrers, whose tragic end can scarcely be passed over without mention, though only remotely connected with the Turf, as he had not run horses for some few seasons, though in earlier years he had maintained a considerable racing stud.

Lord Ferrers was born in 1720, and very early in life distinguished himself in the world of sport by keeping a pack of foxhounds in Leicestershire, of sufficient excellence to have been bought by the ever famous Mr. Hugo Meynell in 1753, and which formed the original Quorn pack. After parting with the hounds, Lord Ferrers seems to have given way to vice of every kind, and from a Memoir published immediately after his death in 1760, and which gives “a circumstantial account” of the tragedy connected with his name, it would appear that :—

“his lordship was at Derby races when he run his mare against a horse belonging to Captain M. for £50, which he had the pleasure to win. . . . The Captain having heard his lordship’s mare was with foal, jocosely mentioned his running his horse again against his lordship’s mare at the end of seven months. His lordship now imagining that this was a scheme laid to impose on him, flew into a rage ; a quarrel arose, and he left Derby at about three in the morning to go to his home seat.”

Some weeks later, Lord Ferrers seems to have accused his steward, Mr. Johnson, of conniving with Captain M. in the above affair, and brutally murdered him, in a most cold-blooded manner. He was subsequently arrested and sent to London in his own landau and six horses, under a strong guard, “dressed in the habit of a jockey, in a strait-bodied “cloth frock, jockey boots and cap, and a plain shirt.”

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1. page 268.

The journey up from Leicestershire, took from the 8th to the 14th February, when he arrived at Westminster. The trial lasted two days, and Lord Ferrers had to kneel at the Bar of the House during the hearing, as his Majesty was supposed to be present in the person of the Lord High Steward. Being found guilty of the crime by his peers, Lord Ferrers was hanged at Tyburn on the 5th May, 1760, and it being a vulgar impression that a silken cord must be employed at the execution of a nobleman, it was expressly announced that only a common rope halter was used on this occasion.

It was moreover part of the sentence that Lord Ferrers' body was to be delivered over to the surgeons for dissection, which was duly carried out. It should be remarked that, according to the *Calendar*, Lord Ferrers ran no horses in 1759, so the race at Derby, alluded to in the Memoir, was probably a privately arranged Match.

**1761.** At Huntingdon Races, "the Produce of twenty "Lottery Tickets was run for, free only for Subscribers, one 4 Mile Heat, Wt. for Age and Inches," and was won by the Duke of Devonshire's Fortunatus, 6 yrs.

**1762.** The first mention of Colours is recorded this year in the second Order made by the Jockey Club, which was in these terms :—

For the greater Conveniency of distinguishing the Horses in Running, as also for the Prevention of Disputes arising from not knowing the Colours worn by each Rider, the underwritten GENTLEMEN have come to the Resolution and Agreement of having the Colours annexed to the following NAMES, worn by their respective Riders. viz. :

- D. of Cumberland, PURPLE.
- D. of Grafton, SKY-BLUE.
- D. of Devonshire, STRAW-COLOUR.
- D. of Kingston, CRIMSON.
- D. of Ancaster, BUFF.
- D. of Bridgewater, GARTER-BLUE.
- M. of Rockingham, GREEN.
- E. of Waldegrave, DEEP RED.

E. of Orford, PURPLE AND WHITE.  
 E. of March and Mr. Vernon, WHITE.  
 E. of Northumberland, DEEP YELLOW.  
 E. of Gower, BLUE, WITH CAP OF DITTO.  
 Vis. Bolingbroke, BLACK.  
 Sir J. Moore, DARKEST GREEN.  
 Mr. Greville, BROWN, TRIMMED YELLOW.  
 Mr. Shafto, PINK.  
 Lord Grosvenor, ORANGE.  
 Sir J. Lowther, ———.

The above Regulations to take Place in the next SECOND OCTOBER MEETING, 1762. The Stewards, therefore, hope, in the Name of THE JOCKEY CLUB, that the above GENTLEMEN will take Care that the Riders are provided by that Time with Dresses accordingly.

Of these Colours, only the Straw of the Duke of Devonshire, and the Orange of the Grosvenor family, remain in the same ownership to-day, though the latter is now called "Yellow." The Marquis of Rockingham's Green jacket, however, is still registered by his direct descendant, Lord FitzWilliam, but all the remainder have passed into other hands. The colour of the Cap is only once stated in this original list, but we know that in the case of Lords Grosvenor and Rockingham that it was black, then as now, and this appears to have been the prevailing fashion at that time.

In the returns of Sweepstakes, and occasionally of Matches, the ages of the runners were not given in the *Calendar*, and in the absence of information in the *Stud Book*, it is often impossible to ascertain how old they were. With regard to actual winners, however, since 1745 each book had contained a separate list of Winning Horses, arranged under their Ages. This table concluded with a section, "I know not the age of the following," when the compiler had been unable to ascertain them.

Unfortunately for the edification of future Turf historians, this year the winners were no longer shewn under their respective ages, the object apparently being to include all the winning progeny in one list, under their sires, and this

annual table did not again provide the ages until 1780, when Mr. Weatherby hit upon the obvious plan of denoting it by a figure preceding the horse's name, as has been customary in these lists continuously from that time to the present day, thus :—

| WINNING HORSES.               |                  |                 |
|-------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Yrs.<br>old.                  | No. of<br>Races. | Total<br>Value. |
| PHALARIS (1913) by Polymelus. |                  |                 |
| 3                             | Manna 2          | 21,335 0        |
| 5                             | Pharos 1         | 1,665 0         |
| etc., etc.                    |                  |                 |

1763. It was announced that the races at Stafford would be annually run for the second week in October, and that the Plates "will always be paid as they were this Year, in new Silk Purses, without any Deduction."

At Huntingdon Races, "a Quarter of a Mile Match was run for 100 Gs., between a Gentleman and a Grey Gelding with one Leg tied, and won by the former. The Horse's Leg "untied in running."

Our ancestors appear to have had a predilection for such degrading contests, and as another instance, we find Sir Ralph Verney, in 1639, sending his brother Henry, at The Hague, the racing news from Brackley, which he anxiously awaited,

My Lord Carlile's white nagg hath beaten Dandy, and Spratt wone the cup, and Cricket the plate, and which you will most woonder at, the Weaver hath beaten the Sheepheard shamfully, and offers to run the same number of miles for 500 pounds with the Sheepheard, and bee tied to hopp the last twelve score yds.<sup>1</sup>

The *Calendar* records an historical Match with foxhounds, which took place at Newmarket on the last day of September, when "the Hon. Mr. *Smith Barry* and Mr. *Pochin* run each a Couple of Foxhounds over the *Beacon Course*, for 400 Gs. "The first Hound to take 300 Gs., the second a hundred, which "was won by Mr. *Barry's* coming in first and second."

1. *Memoirs of the Verney Family.* Vol. 1, p. 185.



Apparently this celebrated trial of the speed of foxhounds has not been quite correctly returned in the *Calendar*, and as it is so constantly referred to at the present day, it may be well to record the actual facts as fully as it is possible now to obtain them.

Mr. Smith Barry (1725-1784) was the youngest son of James, fourth Earl of Barrymore, and Master of the Cheshire Hounds from this year to his death, twenty-one years afterwards. Mr. "Pochin" was evidently a misprint for Mr. Meynell, the ever-famous Master of the Quorn.

It is somewhat singular that no contemporaneous details are obtainable, and even Mr. Egerton Warburton, the laureate of the Cheshire Hunt, had to rely on the excellent account given of this Match in Daniel's *Rural Sports* (vol. 1, page 155), but though the date of the month was correctly stated, Daniel omits to name the year in which it took place. Warburton fixes it by the letterpress under the print of Sartorius' picture of the Match, when it was mentioned that it was run in October, 1762, but it is evident from the *Calendar* that September 30th, 1763, was the correct date.

Mr. Smith Barry's famous Bluecap won, with his Wanton second, Mr. Meynell's Richmond being beaten a hundred yards. The course was from the rubbing-house at Newmarket Town End, to the rubbing-house at the starting-post of the Beacon Course; the time taken was a few seconds over eight minutes, the distance being four miles. It is said that sixty horses started with the hounds, but only twelve saw the finish, Mr. Smith Barry's huntsman, Cooper, being first up, but his mare was ridden to a standstill, and the trainer of the hounds, though riding Rib, a well-known King's Plate horse, could only finish twelfth. The hounds were trained to run a drag, and were in work from August 1 to September 28, the Match being run two days later.

In 1790, J. Bodger, of Stilton, Hunts., whose work is so familiar to collectors of sporting pictures, from his well-known portrait of Tregonwell Frampton (the Father of the

Turf), the Duke of Queensberry's celebrated Carriage Match, and Views of the different Courses at Newmarket, invited subscriptions for a plate representing :—

“The *Famous Dog Match*, over the B. C. at Newmarket, between the Hon. J. S. Barry and Hugo Meynell, Esqr. The View is taken from the King's Four Mile Stables, and contains a Grand View of Horsemen in the foreground, amongst whom are *Portraits of several gentlemen*—also, a *Portrait of the Winning Hound*, with the Prospect of the Race Ground, and Country surrounding *Newmarket*.”

We have never succeeded in finding this print, and if it ever was published, should be indebted for particulars of it, from anyone fortunate enough to possess a copy.

About 1795 Colonel Thornton issued a challenge to run his Merkin against any hound five miles “over Newmarket,” receiving 220 yards, for 10,000 gs. In a private trial over four miles, Merkin is said to have covered the distance in seven and a half minutes.

**1764.** The races in New England (Philadelphia) were again given in the *Calendar*.

At Ascot H.R.H.'s King Herod, 8st. 13lb., beat Lord Rockingham's Tom Tinker, 8st. 7lb., four miles for 1,000 guineas, 4 to 1 on the winner. The performances of Eclipse have become traditional; it is therefore well to emphasise the fact that all three of the progenitors of our racehorses (Eclipse, Herod, and Matchem) were renowned in their day for speed, though Matchem was perhaps more famous as a stallion than on the Turf, although a great performer.

It is also worthy of note that so long ago as 1794, a well-informed anonymous writer in a review of Turf matters of his time, plainly indicated the superiority of the blood of Eclipse over his two rivals, and considered that the direct descendants of Matchem in tail male ranked lower than those of Herod, an opinion which the long result of time has tended to confirm.

It may here be repeated, for the benefit of those not well versed in pedigrees, that every thoroughbred horse at the

present day descends in direct tail male from one or other of these three great stallions, an astounding phenomenon, and worthy of much reflection.

At the end of this volume of the *Racing Calendar* will be found the advertisement of a book which the publishers no doubt considered would be indispensable to followers of the Turf, entitled :—

“THE Laws of Gaming: comprehending the various Statutes, Reports, and Determinations on that extensive Subject, particularly relative to Horse Racing, Cards, and Frauds: Whereunto is added, The Answer and Opinion of the Learned Sir *John Strange*, Master of the Rolls, to seventeen distinct Queries on the Statute of the 9th of Queen *Anne*, for avoiding the Penalties thereby inflicted against Gaming. Calculated for the Caution of Youth, and the Experience of the Adept. Humbly inscribed to the Noble and Right Honourable Members of the Jockey Club.

<sup>1</sup>“*Libertas est quod cuique facere libet nisi quid jure prohibetur.*  
*Inst.* 3. 1.”

It will hereafter be seen that the Statute of the 9th of Queen Anne, above alluded to, occasioned the notorious “*Qui Tam*” actions, which so perturbed followers of racing in the days of Lord George Bentinck, and which will be more particularly noticed under the year 1845.

**1769.** On the death of Heber the previous year, two new *Racing Calendars* at once made their appearance, one the joint-property of William Tuting and Thomas Fawconer, calling themselves “Successors to the late Mr. Heber,” the other issued by one B. Walker. Tuting had long been associated with racing affairs, and was Keeper of the Match Book at Newmarket, while Fawconer styled himself Secretary to the Jockey Club, and they termed their work *The Sporting*

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1. Liberty is that which enables anyone to do as they please unless it may be prohibited by law. “*Inst.*” is probably an abbreviation for Just[inian], Emperor of Rome, who caused his famous Code of Laws to be compiled in the year 528, and from which the above maxim was extracted.

*Calendar*, but apart from this difference in title, it exactly resembled previous issues.

Walker, on the other hand, appears to have appropriated Heber's work, title page, type, and all, making not the slightest allusion to the deceased compiler in a somewhat grandiloquent preface, in which he observed that Pope was entirely mistaken in his assertion that :—

“ Newmarket's glory rose, but Britain's fell,”

stating it merely arose from his splenetic condition, feeling himself unable to participate in the sport, and that it was by no means a natural consequence of events. He enumerated the many and great advantages that racing conferred on the Nation, and the encouragement it gave “ for the importation of Arabs and Barbs, from which all our excellent Horses are bred,” and added :—

“ Thus, while England has the pleasure of seeing her sons the most beautifully mounted in Europe, they have also the satisfaction to find those of other nations applying to them to be permitted as partners of their Equestrian superiority, almost at any price they are pleased to demand.”

Walker's *Calendar* was only published two years (1769-70) ; probably he found the Keeper of the Match Book, and the Secretary of the Jockey Club, too formidable opponents for him in the same field of enterprise, and accordingly retired from such an unequal contest, after announcing how much he had been hindered by the “ prevaricating behaviour ” of the present Keeper of the Match Book (W. Tuting), who could scarcely be expected to have afforded his rival many facilities for obtaining the information he needed.

Though each publication gave the Rules of Cocking as usual, in neither work was included any Rules of Racing, Pond still remaining the only author who had seen the necessity of providing them.

This year was remarkable for the first appearance of a two-year-old on a racecourse. At the Second October Meeting at Newmarket,

Mr. C. Blake's bay colt Gibscutski, 6st., by Gibson's Arabian, beat Mr. Ogilvy's bay mare Stilts, 6 yrs old, by Genius, 9st. the last three-quarters of Rowley's mile, for 200gs., no crossing, nor jostling.

The owner of Gibson's Arabian was careful to draw attention in his advertisement of the horse next season to the fact that he was the sire of Gibscutski, "which beat the famous mare "Stilts a match last October, though but two years old."

As had been the case in former days with the three year olds, the example of racing two year olds was not immediately followed, and probably was again reprobated by most of those concerned with the turf at the time.

Mask (Marske) was advertised to cover this season at the enhanced fee of ten guineas, and five shillings the servant, as his son Eclipse, who was then five years old, had won nine races this year, including five King's Plates. Marske was described as standing fifteen hands, "and is thought to be "the highest English-bred horse in the kingdom," as opposed to Arabians and other Eastern sires.

**1770** The title-page of the *Calendar* was altered this year, it being now stated to contain an account "of the Plates, Matches, and Sweepstakes that have been run for in Great Britain, Ireland, and North America." These latter races were held at Annapolis, Philadelphia, and New York, one event at each of the two first-named places being styled a Jockey Club Plate.

The following announcement appears for this year :—

#### CHESTER RACES, 1771.

In order to save Mr. Quick, Mr. Castle, or any of the Ascott Confederacy the trouble and expense of training, they are desired to take notice that none of their horses will be allowed to run for any of the above plates, neither will they be suffered to run for any of the plates at Conway, Nantwich, or Holywell; nor will Thomas Dunn be permitted to ride.

This is the first instance recorded of a public "warning-off" notice, and the Confederacy could have had nothing to complain of in the very considerate terms in which it was drafted.



In explanation, it would seem that at Ascot, the previous year, Mr. Castle's bay horse Stranger was favourite for the Town Plate, and had won one heat, when he was "unaccountably drawn, so the horses belonging to his owner, and the horses belonging to other persons concerned with him, were excepted at most of the following races ; and 'tis supposed they will be generally excepted the ensuing season." Hence the above notice in the *Calendar* for the next year, though it is not apparent why the exclusion only applied to the four meetings above named.

A very important departure will be noticed in this volume, in that it included for the first time the "*Orders settled by the Jockey Club.*" Amongst many other matters:—

It was resolved that the Members should meet annually at dinner on the day preceding the King's birthday, that three Members should be appointed Stewards, to commence their office on the 4th of June annually ; one new Steward to be appointed every year on the 3rd of June, by the Steward who quits on that day, subject to the approbation of the Members of the Jockey Club then present ; ever afterward the senior Steward is to quit his office on the 3rd of June annually.

The remainder of the regulations provided that the Stewards should be vested with full powers to conduct racing affairs generally at Newmarket, and also all matters connected with the payment of stakes and forfeits. Further :

It was resolved that the Stewards should appoint some proper person to examine every colt or filly, being at the age of two, three, or four years, at the Ending post, immediately after running the first time, and that the said appointed person is to sign a certificate of such examination, and his opinion thereon, which certificate is to be hung up before eight o'clock the evening of the said day of running, in the Coffee house at Newmarket.

It has often been erroneously supposed from the terms of the above resolution, that the racing of two-year-olds was not only contemplated, but sanctioned, by the Stewards then elected, who were Lord Bolingbroke, Sir Charles Bunbury, and Mr. J. Shafto, but as horses at this period universally

took their ages from May-day, these "two-year-olds" would in reality be three years, and not two years old at all, as we now calculate ages.

Thus it is frequently stated that two-year-olds were eligible to start for the Craven Stakes of 1771, the conditions stating that it was to be run for by two-year-olds carrying 6st. 7lb., three years 8st., four years 8st. 10lb., five years 9st. 4lb., six years 9st. 10lb., aged 10st., and three "two-year-olds" ran for it, but as the race was held on the 18th of March they were what would be called three-year-olds, now that ages are reckoned from the 1st of January.

Apart from Gibscutski, mentioned under the year 1769, it does not appear that anyone ran a genuine two-year-old till November, 1773, and then only in a Match, when Mr. Walker's grey colt, Baby (2ys), carrying a "feather," beat Mr. (Right Honourable) Charles James Fox's Chesterton (4ys), 11st., B.C., for 200gs. Assuming the "feather" was about 4st., the two-year-old received no less than 7st. over the four miles of the Beacon Course.

The same day the unfortunate Baby, now carrying 6st., was required to run the Beacon Course again, against another four-year-old of Mr. Fox's, called Cunegonde, 8st., and was beaten.

At this meeting at Newmarket was run the Grosvenor Plate of 100gs. for all ages, two-year-olds to carry 4st. 8lb.; three years, 6st. 7lb.; four years, 7st. 9lb.; five years, 8st. 5lb.; six years, 8st. 9lb.; aged, 8st. 10lb.; Ditch-in (two miles and 118 yards), this being the only race of the year for which two-year-olds were eligible, but none started for it, neither did any other run till 1775, when there was a Match for two-year-olds at the Second October Meeting, and the following year a Sweepstakes at Newmarket confined to horses of that age, for which only three ran.

But after this date, the practice of early racing rapidly gained in popularity, and each year brought more to the post. In 1786 two-year-old races were firmly established by the

institution of the July Stakes of 50 gs. each, colts 8st. 2lb., fillies 8st., with the singular proviso that those by Eclipse and Highflyer were to carry 3lb. extra. This race, which is still one of the most important two-year-old events of the season, has been carried on uninterruptedly ever since.

We have already noticed that three-year-olds did not run earlier than 1756—with the single exception of the race at Bedale in 1731 and 1732—or four-year-olds before 1727, the first race at Newmarket solely confined to horses of this age being run in 1730.

It was recorded that at the April Meeting in 1770, "Lord Rockingham's Colt run over the Beacon Course, with Lord Bolingbroke's Shylock, carrying 8st. 7lb., for 300 guineas. "The two judges dividing in their opinions, the race was deemed "void." This announcement is noteworthy, both as shewing that "judges" still decided the races at Newmarket, and that two horses could run a dead-heat over a course of four miles, which, however, was by no means a unique incident in those days, owing to the custom of occasionally only seriously racing the last few furlongs over the long courses then in fashion.

Amongst the advertisements in this volume the now familiar curt announcement appeared: "Next season, at Epsom, "Eclipse, at 50 guineas and one guinea the groom," an enormous advance on the fees that had hitherto obtained, but even this great horse had to be dropped to twenty-five guineas the next three seasons, and never afterwards commanded a higher fee than thirty guineas. Often it required a whole page of the *Calendar*, and sometimes more, to set forth the merits and qualifications of a stallion to the satisfaction of his owner, but evidently in the case of Eclipse "good wine needed no bush," then as now.

**1771.** From this year the accounts of racing in North America were discontinued, but those of Jamaica were given in their stead.

In some further Orders of the Jockey Club, issued as before

from the Star and Garter Tavern in Pall Mall, in February of this year, it was :

Resolved, that if for any Sweepstakes or Subscription, the two first horses shall come in so near together that the Judge shall not be able to decide which won, those two first horses shall run for such a Prize over again, after the last Match on the same day,

from which it would seem that at length the Stewards had determined that for the future, races should be decided by a single Judge, thus obviating frequent disputes, and setting a good example to provincial meetings.

It is interesting to note that the *Calendar* this year mentions for the first time the name of Mr. James Weatherby as being resident at Newmarket, where he had succeeded Tuting in the office of Keeper of the Match Book, the latter now becoming Clerk of the Course.

At the October Meeting, a Plate of 160 guineas was given for African and Asiatic horses, carrying 8st. 7lb., over the Beacon Course, and was won by Lord Bolingbroke. A race confined entirely to Eastern horses was a novelty, and does not seem to have been repeated for many years, it being evidently considered they did not shew to advantage on a racecourse, and were only usefully employed as stallions to improve the existing breed.

The exact parentage of Eclipse having been frequently questioned, some affirming he was got by Shakespeare, and not Marske, as was generally supposed, the following notice will be found amongst the advertisements at the end of the volume :—

“Mask was the sire of Eclipse. Witness my hand, B. Smith, Stud-groom to the late Duke of Cumberland.”

Marske now stood at Gibbon's Grove, Leatherhead, Surrey, at 30 guineas and five shillings the servant.

**1772.** This year there was a battle royal as to the publication of the *Calendar*. Mr. James Weatherby conspired with William Tuting not only to desert his partner,

Thomas Fawconer, in their joint vocation as compilers of a *Calendar*, but actually to appropriate and conceal sixteen hundred copies of the book just before it was issued, with the result that most of the subscribers were unable to obtain the volume for this year at all.

**1773.** The death of Tuting during this year helped to further the designs of Weatherby, and consequently at its close he boldly issued the first volume of his *Racing Calendar*, which was destined to become the official organ of the Jockey Club, and which has been continued on very much the same plan, and the same outward appearance, as when it started over a hundred and fifty years ago.

The new book contained neither preface nor introduction, and following the invariable custom of past compilers, was merely a servile facsimile of Tuting and Fawconer's publication; the only apparent difference being that whereas they had called their book a *Sporting Calendar*, Weatherby termed his a *Racing Calendar*, the title it still retains.

The Table of Contents in both the rival works was practically identical, and as has been before remarked, no law of copyright terrorised plagiarists in those remote days. The Rules of Cocking, the chief Cock Matches, and reports of racing in Jamaica were, as before, given impartially by each compiler.

Fawconer, in the preface to his *Calendar* for 1773, loudly lamented the perfidy of his late partner and Mr. Weatherby, and stated that he had thereby been forced into an expensive Chancery law-suit, but optimistically announced that "the Dispute will soon be determined in his Favour by the Lord Chancellor," and concluded with an expression of hope that he would shortly be in a position to send his thirteen hundred subscribers their missing volume for the previous year, which his collaborator had purloined.

The next season found the disputants more antagonistic than ever, and in the second volume of his *Calendar*, Mr. Weatherby treated his patrons to an introduction, stating



that from the fact of his being Keeper of the Match Book at Newmarket, his publication must have many advantages over any other similar record, and rather added insult to injury by observing that "whatever the pilfering Editor of another work may advance to the prejudice of the *Racing Calendar*, the Publisher is happy in finding it stamped with the undoubted Approbation of the Gentlemen of the Turf."

Fawconer, on his part, retorted that notwithstanding anything his opponent might allege as to pilfering, the fact remained that his sheets were published a day earlier than his rivals', which refuted this assertion, and that certain Members of the Jockey Club, who had supplied him with particulars from the Match Book in the past, would still continue to do so, in spite of the opposition of "the present Match Book Keeper, he being only their Servant during Pleasure."

These mutual acrimonious repartees ceased entirely with the next volume (1775). Mr. Weatherby henceforth pursued the even tenour of his way, and Fawconer merely announced that he was to be found at the Temple-Exchange Coffee and Punch House, opposite St. Dunstan's Church, Fleet-street, where, in addition to his *Calendar*, Brandy and Rum, also "Punch in small Quantities, so much admired for Delicacy "of Flavour, and Richness of Quality," could be obtained, together with back numbers of his, Heber's, and Cheny's *Calendars*. Only one more volume (vol. viii., 1776) was issued by Fawconer, and he died the next year.

The road now being cleared for Mr. Weatherby, by the decease of his only competitor, he appears to have produced from their hiding place the sixteen hundred copies of the volume for 1772, which had been concealed by him and Tuting; the *Racing Calendar* for 1778 containing the curious announcement that "the *Sporting Calendar* for 1772, published by Messrs. Tuting and Fawconer, both since deceased, "having hitherto been distributed to but a few of the subscribers, the rest of the subscribers, and others, are hereby

“informed that the same may be had of Mr. Weatherby, No. 11, Hamilton Street, near Park Lane, Piccadilly, London.”

Henceforth, though there have been several other minor *Calendars* issued of varying degrees of usefulness, which will be noticed hereafter, none have seriously competed with the *Racing Calendar*, which has been regarded as standing alone. Originally Mr. Weatherby's position as Keeper of the Match Book, an office which has since become hereditary in his family, gave him an advantage with which no other compiler could hope to contend ; and his *Calendar* gradually became the mouthpiece of the Jockey Club, culminating in its purchase by that body one hundred and twenty-nine years afterwards, as it was considered the official *Calendar* should undoubtedly be the property of the Club themselves, and not of a private firm, though as Messrs. Weatherby still issue it as heretofore on their behalf, the change in ownership is probably unnoticed by the general public.

Succeeding volumes of this admirable *Calendar* accurately record year by year the steady progress of racing affairs, and forms an authentic History of the Turf for the past one hundred and fifty years.

At the date of Mr. Weatherby's first *Calendar* (1773), there were race meetings held in thirty-eight English counties, and at no fewer than ninety different centres, precisely twice as many as in 1913 (the last pre-war year), shewing the hold the National sport had on the public taste at that time.

It must not be inferred from this fact that racing is less in favour with the populace than in these early days, for though for the purposes of good order and purity of the Turf, many of the small racecourses have been closed, more especially in the vicinity of the metropolis, it is obvious that the number of races, and racehorses, has enormously increased.

It will be noticed that this *Calendar* also contained no laws governing the sport. The only regulations to be found were the “Rules and Orders of the Jockey Club,” which have

duly appeared under this same heading from 1770 to the present day. These rules were but very few in number, and more concerned betting matters, and the drastic penalties for "watching trials," then considered a heinous offence, than the conduct of racing itself, and bear about the same proportion to the present existing list of one hundred and eighty-four rules, with their various exhaustive sections and sub-sections, as do the Ten Commandments to the "Statutes at Large."

The evolution of the Laws of Racing from this primitive beginning to the present comprehensive code, necessitated by its ever-varying conditions, enabling the Stewards to cope with every situation which might conceivably arise, is one of the most interesting features of the *Calendar* as traced in these pages.

The original Orders were expressly stated by the Jockey Club to apply to Newmarket only, and subsequently to such meetings as should elect to abide by Newmarket Rules. The best interests of the sport have ever been the one aim of the Jockey Club, and it is indeed fortunate that the whole government of the Turf gradually fell into such unquestioned, if despotic, hands. Otherwise on more than one occasion, and notably during the recent war, Parliament would have usurped their powers, and taken a part in the control of the Turf, to its manifest disadvantage.

The ancient race at Kipling Coates, Yorkshire, is duly recorded, though it shortly dropped out of the official returns as being only of local interest. It is held in the parish of South Dalton, near Beverley, and from other sources we know that the income is derived from £465 12s. stock, purchased in 1618, by Lord Burlington and other gentlemen of the district, to endow the race in perpetuity.

Amongst other items in this volume, it is stated that at Newmarket First Spring Meeting, which was held on all six days of the week, Mr. Blake's Firetail beat Mr. Foley's Pumpkin, 8st. each, R.M., for 500 guineas, and adds: "This

"race was run in 1 minute 4 seconds and a half." These were certainly two of the best horses of the day, but the science of timing races can then scarcely have reached a high point of accuracy, if Rowley's Mile was thought to have been covered in that short space of time : Sunstar now holds the record for this particular course, winning the Two Thousand Guineas of 1911 in 1 minute 37  $\frac{3}{5}$ ths seconds, so one may be excused being somewhat sceptical as to the official time of this race, almost as frequently alluded to by old sporting writers as Flying Childers' legendary mile in a minute, both of which exploits were implicitly believed in at that day.

As we do not recall any other instance of the time of a race being recorded in the *Calendar*, probably it was run at an exceptionally fast pace, to account for its being accorded special mention. The Jockey Club issued an order at the close of this year, "That all betts depending between Pumpkin and Firetail are null and void, those horses being now the "property of the same gentleman." and included it among their "Rules and Orders," so these two horses had evidently attained great fame.

As in former *Calendars* by the various compilers, Cocking, the specimen Article for a Cock-Match, and "The Following "Rules relating to the Method of Matching and Fighting of "Cocks, in London, said to have been in Practice since the "Reign of King Charles II.," occupied their accustomed place, this sport then being inseparable from racing.

Both (King) Herod and Eclipse are advertised to cover the following season, each at a fee of 25 guineas, the latter reduced from the 50 guineas demanded in his first season.

From this time forward at various meetings, it will be noticed that certain races were called Perram Plates, or otherwise augmented by funds derived under the will of the late Mr. Perram. We are not quite aware of the identity of this gentleman, but understand that having obtained a fortune from the pursuit of racing, he in gratitude left a large sum of money to be added to certain specified races.

By a deed Poll of 12th August, 1801, relative to the Will of John Perram, dated 31st May, 1772, "the trustees of the sum "of £410 6s. 2d., 3 per cent. Consols, and £21 Long Bank "annuities and accumulations . . . . . a marriage portion of "£21 should be given to a parishioner of All Saints, Newmarket, "who should marry on Thursday in Easter week a parishioner "of between twenty and twenty-five years of age, nor be "worth £20." Presumably certain races at Newmarket were also endowed by Mr. Perram, as in 1780 at the First October Meeting, Diomed, winner of the Derby that year, won the Perram Plate of £30, added to £50 given by the Town, and at the Second October Meeting he won a Subscription Plate of twenty guineas each, "the winner of the Perram Plate in the "First October Meeting to have carried 4lb. extra."

It is uncertain when this bequest terminated. It was certainly in existence for over seventy years, there being allusions to it in the *Calendars* up to 1845—in which year it is mentioned as amounting to £30 15s. 10d.,—and we have before us a card of the Newmarket July Meeting of 1838, wherein is announced the "Town Plate of 50 sovs., for three-year-old colts 8st. 7lb., and fillies 8st. 3lb., last mile and a "distance of B.C., to be entered at Queen's Stables, Newmarket, on the day before running, between Eleven and One "o'clock, entrance 6gs.," the particulars further stating that "Mr. Perram's donation not having been claimed this year "as a marriage portion, the winner of this Plate will be "entitled to it, and it will be paid by Mr. Weatherby."

In this volume (1773) a list is given of the "Colours worn by the Riders of the following Noblemen and Gentlemen," only twenty-seven being registered, so very little advance had been made in this very desirable direction since the notice by the Jockey Club eleven years previously, but at this period reforms were very slowly achieved. This little list may well be contrasted with the eighty-eight *pages* of "Colours" in the current volume of the *Racing Calendar*.

In Tuting's *Calendar* for this year, it is recorded that in



the month of May, at Newmarket, Mr. Sawbridge rode his hunter, Major, 14 years old, eighteen miles in fifty-seven minutes, for 500gs., which was three minutes within the time allowed.

At the First October Meeting, Sir F. Evelyn beat Sir Charles Bunbury in a Sweepstakes of 100gs. and hogshead of Ringwood. This beverage (now obsolete) was ale, brewed at the place of that name in Hampshire, which then had an extraordinary reputation, and was stated to be "the most orthodox ale in the kingdom."

**1776.** The *Calendar* shews that racing at Newmarket was conducted in a different manner to country meetings, where the old-fashioned heats were still in favour, and long remained so. The First Spring Meeting extended over the entire week, and consisted almost exclusively of Sweepstakes and Matches, usually run over the Beacon Course, of rather more than four miles; the Duke's Course (so called after the Duke of York, subsequently James II.), which was practically the same distance, or the Round Course (made by Charles II.), just one mile less; all of which courses have fallen into disuse since races over such distances are no longer run.

The racing this week consisted of no fewer than twenty Matches, twenty-three Sweepstakes, and five Plates, in addition to fifteen Matches which were compromised on payment of forfeit. Some of the Matches were for large sums, Mr. Pigott's Shark (who afterwards helped to lay the foundation of the American Turf) beating Mr. Greville's Postmaster. 8st. each, R.M., for 1,000gs., and several others were for 500 guineas each.

The various Sweepstakes were also very costly races for the owners of horses, one being of 1,000gs. each, and won by Lord (Upper) Ossory's Comus, by Otho; but not so valuable a prize, owing to the small number of entries it received, as the "Great Sweepstakes" won by the same owner's Dorimant (also sired by Otho), which was worth 5,100 guineas to

the winner, it having obtained fifty-two subscribers at 100 guineas each. The following year this same race, won by Lord Grosvenor's Grey Robin, by Gimcrack, brought in 5,500 guineas.

It is not apparent why this particular race attracted such a large number of subscribers, whereas others, with similar conditions, received comparatively few entries, but the same remark might be applied to such a race as the Beckhampton T.Y.O. Plate at Newbury at the present day, which is always regarded with particular favour.

The convivial tastes of our ancestors were reflected in one of the Sweepstakes run at this meeting, the entry for which was 100 guineas and a hogshead of claret each, the owner of the second horse being entitled to receive two hogsheads out of the stakes. The race having obtained seventeen entries, the winner, Sir Lawrence Dundas (afterwards the second Lord Zetland) received fifteen hogsheads, in addition to the sum of sixteen hundred guineas.

For the benefit of those who, in these degenerate times, are more accustomed to buy their wine in "dozens," it may be mentioned that a hogshead is sixty-three gallons, so the cellar at Aske was replenished with nine hundred and forty-five gallons, which took some drinking, even in those days.

It was quite a frequent occurrence for a hogshead of claret (in one instance ten hogsheads) to be part of the stake at this period, and in another race the *Calendar* notes that the subscribers carefully protected themselves from being poisoned by inferior wine, by stipulating "the claret is to be purchased of any merchant the winner approves."

Pot8os won another of the 100-Guinea Sweepstakes, the first and only time this great horse ran that season, being then three years old, running under his correct name of Potooooooooo, the shorter style not being adopted till 1778, and then spelt Pot8o, and not the plural form current in later years.

It is well known that this horse obtained his singular name from the way his lad spelt it when asked by his breeder, the

fourth Lord Abingdon, to chalk it up in his stable at Rycote, and he was christened accordingly, though the name was abbreviated subsequently, doubtless out of mercy to the printers.

**1779.** This year the *Calendar* records a very celebrated Match and wager between Lords Abingdon and Grosvenor, the particulars of which are thus set forth, and is remarkable for the details of a private bet being officially noticed :—

Ld. Abingdon's ch. c. Cardinal York, by Mask [Marske], 8st., beat Ld Grosvenor's br. f. by Dux out of Curiosity, 7st. 11lb. B.C., for 1,000 guineas, and 6,000 guineas bye, which Ld Grosvenor betted Ld Abingdon to 3,000.

7 to 4 on Cardinal York.

The Match was one of the most sensational ever made at Newmarket, not only on account of the large sum of 7,000 guineas at stake, but as it was also notorious that Lord Abingdon had difficulty in meeting his forfeits, in consequence of which his brother peer had insisted on his posting the money beforehand.

This Lord Abingdon would have been unable to do, and the Match would have been off, but for the assistance of Elwes, the celebrated miser, who, with the inconsistency of human nature, readily offered to lend his lordship 3,000 guineas to cover the bet, without any security. Lord Abingdon and Elwes had been at Westminster School together, and as neighbours in Berkshire were well acquainted with one another.

After losing the Match, Lord Grosvenor promptly named his Dux filly "Misfortune," in token of his loss, and sold her to Mr. Bullock, being so greatly disappointed by her performance. Fortune changed, however, and for her new owner she bred Buzzard, winner of thirty-four races, and who subsequently sired one hundred and eighty-nine winners of £52,553, and six Cups.

The three famous brothers, Castrel, Selim, and Rubens, together with their own sister Bronze, winner of the Oaks, were all by him, and his blood remains with us in great force to this day, as the phenomenal Tetrarch, who has made as great a name for himself at the stud as he did on the Turf, traces his descent to Buzzard in-tail male through his sire Roi Herode, who was by Le Samaritain, by Le Sancy, by Atlantic, by Thormanby, by Windhound, by Pantaloon, by Castrel, by Buzzard.

This year at Hambleton, Yorks, two two-year-olds, were set to run two miles for 100 guineas, the filly carrying 8st. 7lb. and the colt 8st., which is the first recorded instance of two-year-old racing in the North, though, as was before noted, a few horses of this age had run at Newmarket since 1773.

At Ennis (Ireland) races, a £50 Plate was offered for "real Hunters," and in order to qualify for entrance they were required to present themselves at a given place, on "the Tuesday before starting, between the hours of Eleven and One of the Clock, and then leap an Eight Foot Drain, a Four Foot Wall, and a Ditch five Feet high, five Feet broad, with two Dikes, five Feet each in Breadth, said leaps to be performed in a sporting manner, to be determined by judges particularly appointed for the purpose." Such were the conditions of the race as given in the *Calendar*, to ensure that none but "real Hunters" came to the post. It may be of interest to state that three horses survived this ordeal, and started for the Plate on the following day.

The concluding race at Enniskillen was "a Purse for the beaten cattle, carrying 7lb. less than on their respective days of running," conditions which must have been peculiar to Ireland.

In the List of Winning Horses we find Herod credited with fifty-one different winners this season, and his much younger rival Eclipse with thirty-two. This is a truly remarkable record on the part of these two extraordinary horses, more especially when one takes into consideration the difficulties

attendant on sending mares to the most fashionable stallions before the days of railways.

Omitting the few whose pedigrees were unknown, there were this season only three hundred and two winners to be divided amongst the eighty-one successful sires, so the proportion got by Herod and Eclipse was little short of marvellous, the former being credited with over one-sixth of the whole number.

**1780.** The three great classic races date from about this period, the St. Leger being first run in 1778, the Oaks the following year, and the Derby a year later still. It is duly noted in subsequent *Calendars* that there had been at Doncaster in 1776 and 1777 a Sweepstakes run on exactly the same conditions as the race which, at the suggestion of Lord Rockingham, was in 1778 called the St. Leger Stakes, in compliment to the gentleman who originated the race.

The Sweepstakes in 1776 was won by an unnamed filly of Lord Rockingham's, by Sampson, who is often erroneously considered the winner of the first St. Leger, and figures under the name of Alabaculia in many later lists of winners of the race. We have not been able to ascertain at what date this name was given to the filly, but there is no justification for her appearing as a named animal in any record of racing in 1776. She was certainly still unnamed when she ran in the Craven Stakes, and other races at Newmarket, the following year, and afterwards we fail to find her in either the *Calendar* or the *Stud Book*, so it is not easy to explain how, or when, this name came to be bestowed on her, moreover, in the official list of St. Leger winners published each year in the *Racing Calendar* she still appears as an un-named filly by Sampson.

The late Sir Willoughby Maycock, an acknowledged authority on all such matters, was good enough to inform us that he considered the name was coined from that of a distinguished Oriental adventurer, Ali Bey Kuli, a native of Circassia, who for some time arrested the attention of the



politicians of Europe by his revolt against the Porte in 1770, and his attempt to found a new dynasty in Egypt.

Ali Bey died in 1773, probably from wounds received in an engagement with the Mamelukes, whose leader had been promised Ali's wife if he could succeed in capturing him. The date of his activities certainly synchronises with the victory of Lord Rockingham's filly, and may possibly account for her very singular name.

The first "Oakes" (so spelt) was a sweepstakes of 50gs. each for fillies, weight 8st. 4lb., over  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles, and obtained seventeen subscribers, of whom twelve came to the post.

The conditions of the Derby, first run on May 4, 1780, was 50gs. each, h. ft. Colts 8st., fillies 7st. 11lb., the last mile of the course, thirty-six subscribers. The race was won by Sir Charles Bunbury's Diomed, by Florizel, beating eight others. Value of the stakes, 1,125gs.

It is satisfactory that the winner of the first Derby should have been a horse of some importance, as many who have won this great race have been nonentities, and left no name behind them. Diomed was unbeaten this season, winning seven races, and at the stud he not only sired a good number of winners during the many seasons he stood in this country, but has left an indelible mark on the American Turf, principally through his tail-male descendant Lexington, whose blood is still dominant in that country, and the horse's name remains a household word. Diomed was nearly twenty-two years old when Sir Charles sold him for exportation to America, after the season of 1798, for the sum of fifty guineas, evidently thinking that his days of usefulness were over, so it is remarkable that he attained such fame in his extreme old age, in another land.

**1784.** Not content with the existing tax on racehorses, it would appear that this year the Government meditated further inroads on the pocket of the unfortunate owner, and but for the bold front shewn by the Jockey Club,

evidently already a very powerful body, would doubtless have carried their scheme into execution.

A very interesting account of the suggested new tax, and its subsequent abandonment, is to be found amongst the documents preserved by the Dukes of Rutland<sup>1</sup> at Belvoir Castle, but we have never seen a reference made to them in any Turf history. Mr. Daniel Pulteney, writing on the 27th July, 1784, to (Charles) the fourth Duke, tells him that:—

Amongst the new substituted taxes is an additional tax on race-horses, of one guinea per annum, and 5*l.* on every winner.

According to what I read in a newspaper, it is the most ridiculous ever drawn up, and will not produce a shilling at Newmarket. Lord Chatham, however, says it is not so absurd as the papers describe, and that he will speak to his brother [Mr. Pitt] about it, which I wish he may do, to avoid the ridicule and resentment of the “jockies.”

He added a postscript to his letter:—

I left Panton [Keeper of the Running Horses at Newmarket] and two or three other jockies at the House, attacking Lord Chatham on the jockey tax. I find they sent a deputation yesterday to Pitt, consisting of Lord Egremont, the Duke of Queensberry, and Lord Grosvenor, who told him if they meant to suppress racing, they must acquiesce, but that the Bill would certainly effect that object, and none of them meant to have anything more to do with horses if it was not altered; that they did not mean to evade the tax, but to put it to him, whether he did it through want of information, or whether he really meant to suppress racing entirely. I hear from Panton that Pitt behaved very sensibly and properly on the occasion. I know the Jockey Club is entirely in earnest to give up racing altogether if the present Act of ten per cent. is not amended.

It may here be observed that the term “jockey” at this date, and for the hundred years preceding, signified an owner rather than a jockey, and only changed its significance when owners as a rule ceased to ride their own horses.

Further, on the 31st July, Mr. Pulteney wrote again to the Duke:—

The racehorse tax, which by a meeting of the jockies was agreed to

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1. Duke of Rutland MSS., vol. iii., p. 128.

break up racing, is now quite altered ; Pitt has, however, disgusted by a great want of politeness the people who waited on him about it. In mentioning his conduct at a jockey meeting, Vernon told me the Duke of Grafton declared they could expect nothing otherwise from such a young man.

and a few days later :—

I breakfasted this morning with Lord Chatham, who is I believe, more in rebellion with Pitt than I am, for he declared his brother's ideas on the racehorses were only fit to humbug an old woman, and that he would have both spoken and voted against him in the House of Lords.

Thus, owing to the strenuous and concerted action of the Jockey Club, additional taxation on racehorses was entirely averted, and is only one of many instances in which the Club have been enabled to intervene to protect racing interests from the interference of Parliament.

**1788.** The limit of a horse's weight-carrying powers was surely reached at York races this year, when two animals were matched for 100 guineas to run one mile, carrying 30st. The competitors were a grey horse belonging to Mr. George Baker, sometime M.P. for Durham, one of the most prominent and highly-respected racing men of the North, and a bay mare the property of Mr. Maynard. The betting was 2 to 1 on the horse, but the mare won.

From other sources of information, it may be stated that the saddles were specially made for the occasion, by Erskine, of York, and required the assistance of several people to put them on, on account of their enormous weight. Mr. Maynard's mare was ridden by a coachman in the service of Mr. Cholmley, of Howsham Hall, near York, and Michael Mason, a trainer, rode Mr. Baker's grey.

**1791.** Two-year-old racing being now regularly followed, it was an easy graduation to run horses even a year younger, and the first recorded instance of a yearling running occurred at the Houghton Meeting, when the yearling filly Cash (1790), by Ready Rhino, in receipt of 3 stone, beat the three-year-old Eliza, and again later in the week,

carrying "a feather," she beat Quando, another three-year-old, 8st. 7lb., running each time over the Yearling Course of two furlongs one hundred and forty-seven yards.

Though their ages are not expressly stated (as was customary in Matches), we find a Match for yearlings also run at this meeting, over the same course, the winner being variously known as either Sister to Old Gold, or to Silver, and belonging to no less a celebrity than the Right Honourable Charles James Fox.

That early racing did not injuriously affect this filly is evidenced by her subsequently becoming a famous brood mare, being the grand-dam of Beiram, and ancestress of Doncaster and other great horses. As before mentioned, the Stewards doubtless intended the "Yearling Course" to be used for such horses as were then not considered two-year-olds till May-Day, and had no intention of encouraging the racing of animals little more than a year old, which would have been a swing of the pendulum too horrible for a previous generation to contemplate. As a matter of fact, very few horses of this tender age were asked to run at this period, public opinion having soon discountenanced the practice whenever tried.

This same year, a two-year-old, Anthony, by Diomed out of Golden Rose by Eclipse, won eleven of his fourteen starts.

For the past two or three seasons only, a few small handicaps had been in existence at Newmarket, but this year a very important handicap was included in the Ascot programme, the Oatlands Stakes of 100 guineas each, bringing out nineteen runners, the weights of which ranged between 9st. 10lb. and 5st. 3lb., and was won by the well-known horse Baronet, the property of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and ridden by Sam Chifney. A noticeable fact is that the weights for this race appeared in the Book Calendar of the previous year, so were adjusted many months beforehand.

**1792.** The Jockey Club now passed a rule having a great effect on the good conduct of the Turf, and decreed "that when any Match is made in which Crossing and Jostling are not mentioned, they shall be understood to be barred." Hitherto the custom had been John Pond's Rule, "Crossing and Jostling allowed in Matches if no agreement to the contrary," which made all the difference; and thus an end was put to the foul riding which had frequently been a disgraceful feature of race meetings, and had never been countenanced by the articles for the King's Plates, which specially forbade the practice.

A well-known print of the day depicts a Match run in November, 1792, between the (fifth) Duke of Bedford and Sir John Lade, owners up, 15st. each, over the four miles of the Beacon Course, for 300gs., his Grace winning easily; and curious Matches between Hunters, also even Galloways, were still permitted to be run at Newmarket.

At the Royal Corporation Races, County Down, it would appear that a Testament, in addition to a flag, was required by the starter, for "being sworn," he declared he had not given the word to go, when the horses started, and ran the course, contrary to his intention.

A singular feature of this year's *Calendar* was the inclusion of the returns of racing in Moscow, a gentleman of the familiar name of Mr. Smith winning two races out of the three recorded.

**1793.** For some reason the races at Gloucester had declined in popularity, and this year an attempt was made to rehabilitate them, *Races to Come* containing the conditions for the following season, framed "as an experiment, on an entirely new and liberal principle."

It is stated that "in consideration of the very weighty expence of training, and the exorbitant prices of hay and corn," the entry fees should be but half-a-guinea, which should go to the Clerk of the Course, "nor shall the winner even have any demand upon him, but be paid 50*l.* Sterling, or



“(if the finances of the little treasury will permit) Fifty “Pounds Newmarket Currency, Anglice Guineas.” The notice was signed :—

“ P. S. AND  
“ CUI PLACEAT } Esqrs. Stewards.”

thus approximating the “ Mr. A. N. Other ” of our own day in cricket programmes, though one would scarcely have expected to find such an ambiguity in the *Racing Calendar*. It appears that “ P. S.” were the initials of a Mr. Powell Snell, who seems to have been the one and only supporter of the Meeting, but in spite of the attractions offered, the races evidently failed to fill, as no mention will be found of them in the *Calendar* of the following season.

1794. *Races to Come* gives particulars of a Match to be run at the next year’s Craven Meeting at Newmarket, “ Mr. Cauty’s Alderman against Mr. Mazzinghi’s bay cropt “mare, a feather each, one mile,” with the condition that they were to leap over a bar five foot high, to be placed at the end of each of the first three quarters of the mile ; Mr. Cauty to stake 400 to 200 guineas. Thus three jumps over timber five feet high had to be negotiated, approximating a hurdle race on the Heath.

The mention of the “ cropt ” mare, by no means an infrequent method of describing a horse in these early *Calendars*, shews that even racehorses were not exempt from the barbarous mutilations then in fashion, provoking the satire of a French poet of the day, whose verse may be thus roughly translated :—

“ What folly in these Englishmen appears,  
They dock their horses’ tails, and crop their ears.”

1796. A Match for 50 gs. was arranged to be run at Epsom between Lord Clermont’s Hornpipe and Lord Egremont’s Atropa, over the Derby Course. The competitors went to the post, but neither owner evidently wished to run, and each attempted to bluff the other into

paying forfeit. By the time Lord Egremont had agreed to pay 35 gs. to be off the match, "the fillies had started, and run two or three hundred yards before the jockeys were informed of the compromise. Atropa's rider then pulled up, but having started, it was considered a race, and the full money paid."

A small alteration was made this year in the "Explanation of Abbreviations" used in the *Calendar*, which, so far as we are aware, has hitherto escaped notice. The Jockey Club had been accustomed to perpetuate the names of a few very illustrious notabilities of the Turf by calling certain courses at Newmarket after them. Hence there was Rowley's Mile, in everlasting remembrance of Charles II. (Rowley being his nick-name), who had done so much for racing and the town generally, and had often ridden there in person in days when owners frequently rode their own horses.

Also there were Bunbury's Mile, Abingdon's Mile, Duke's Course, and so forth. But this year, possibly merely by one of the vagaries for which printers are famous, the apostrophe after the names was omitted for the first time, though singularly enough, for the next fifty-six years it was still described as *Rowley's* Mile in that Rule of the Jockey Club fixing the course when it had not been expressly named in drawing up the conditions of a Match or Sweepstakes.

A writer has remarked that "Charles II.'s connection with the Turf can never fade from memory so long as 'Rowley's Mile' remains on the list of courses at Newmarket."

Thus, in the Duke of Devonshire's old "Tryal Book" (1721-65):

Ye 11th of Aprill, 1733, Scar and Comoner run Rowley's Mile att 8st. 1lb. & a hf [8st. 1lb. 8oz.].

That the term "Rowley's Mile" had been hitherto invariably used is certain, not only in the *Calendar*, but in common parlance, and in Cumberland's Play of "The Note of Hand, or Trip to Newmarket, as it is acted at the Theatre Royal, in Drury Lane," in 1774, we find the dialogue thus:—

*Revell*: "What Matches stand for this morning, I say?"

*Epping*: “ Why, there is first Lord Catchweight’s Petit-Maitre, against your honour’s Joan of Arc, *Rowley’s Mile*, 500 of a side.”

*Revell*: “ A hollow thing, he’ll pay half forfeit.”

(Richard Cumberland (1732—1811), the celebrated dramatist, was born in the Master’s Lodge at Trinity College, Cambridge, and from its proximity to Newmarket, he doubtless inhaled the air of the Turf, and became acquainted with its terms.)

It is somewhat to be regretted that this apostrophe was ever allowed to fall into disuse, and one wonders if now the mention on the official card of the Rowley, the Bunbury, or the Abingdon Mile, forthwith recalls to the minds of modern racegoers those great men who were instrumental in their day in building up the fabric of the Turf. Otherwise, the whole purpose of the titles has been lost, and they have no more significance than the names of a row of villas in a town.

A *Calendar* which has preserved not only the outward appearance, but also the quaint phraseology (such as “ Places of Sport,” “ Colours Worn by the Riders,” etc., etc.) of the volumes of two hundred years ago, might fittingly restore the correct and original titles of these Newmarket courses, so that future generations might enquire “ Who were these men ? ” much as the Children of Israel were led to ask, “ What mean ye by these stones ? ” when they saw these memorials in the river Jordan, commemorating the passage across by their forefathers.

The mention of *The Abingdon Mile* completely fails to bring to the mind its namesake, the fourth Lord Abingdon, and might merely refer to the town of that name. Thus the intention of the sponsors has been entirely defeated by the small omission of the apostrophe.

In the same way, ever since 1771, Newmarket has begun its racing season with its Craven Meeting, and York, Malton, and divers other places in old days all opened with their respective “ Craven Meeting.” There is nothing now, save tradition,

to remind us that all these fixtures were so called in honour of that great supporter of the Turf, William, sixth Lord Craven (1731—1791), whose “ beautiful, gay, and fascinating wife ” could enslave even one so uncouth as Dr. Johnson, who, history relates, delighted in her society.

Her ladyship, however, was at no pains herself to preserve her husband’s name, for she married the Margrave of Anspach the very moment she heard the news of Lord Craven’s death, and further distinguished herself by running third for the Derby of 1806, with her grey horse Hector, by Highover. The Margravine died in 1828, and her bust, by the celebrated sculptor Canova, may be still seen in Speen Church, Berkshire.

In addition to perpetuating the memory of these great personages by calling courses and races after their names, in like manner a few famous horses have been similarly immortalised, and the Gimcrack, the Eclipse, the Ormonde Stakes (at Newbury), and Flying Dutchman Handicap at York, followed during the present season by the Bendigo Stakes at Kempton, retain the fame of these celebrities as long as the Turf shall last.

**1797.** We remarked, as a very singular feature, that the first volume of Mr. Weatherby’s *Racing Calendar* (1773) contained no regular Rules of Racing for the guidance of followers of the sport, and consequently it is difficult to understand how it could be carried on in an orderly manner. We have also seen that, except at Newmarket, each meeting was more or less a law unto itself, and racing subsisted for over a century without apparently much in the way of uniform control or regulations.

At the same time, it is evident that from a very early date, rules had been drawn up to regulate the conduct of certain old-established race meetings, some of which codes are still extant. The oldest rules with which we are acquainted are those in force at the ancient Kiplingcoates races, in Yorkshire, which date from 1619, and would appear to have been revised

from some of an even earlier period. These rules have recently been reproduced *in extenso*,<sup>1</sup> as have those of the Duke of Newcastle's Meeting, at Worksop (1666), kindly lent by the Duke of Portland, the present-day representative of the family.

Other comprehensive "Articles" are those of the once-important meeting at <sup>2</sup>Lilly Hoo, Hertfordshire (1693), which are remarkable in that they contain a reference to "Rules of Newm<sup>r</sup>kett," and state that here, as at Newmarket, "fowl play" was barred, any disputes that might arise to be determined by a majority of the Subscribers present.

Possibly the "Laws of Racing," which first appeared in John Pond's *Calendar* in 1751, and doubtless may have been collected by Pond himself, were the basis on which most race meetings were conducted. This year for the first time, in the absence of any other recognised code, they were introduced into Weatherby's *Calendar*, under the heading of "Rules Concerning Horse-Racing in General, with a description of A Post and Handicap Match, taken from Pond's *Racing Calendar* for the year 1751, with some few alterations."

As these Rules date from so far back as 1751, it is evident very little progress had been made in the direction of Turf legislation during the past fifty years, and it will scarcely be credited that they actually remained in the *Calendar*, with but little modification, till 1858, a period of one hundred and nine years, and were absolutely the only Rules of Racing in force. Pond's Rules for "A Post and Handicap Match" are here transcribed :

A Post Match is to insert the age of the horses in the articles, and to run any horse of that age, without declaring what horse, till you come to the post to start.

A Handicap Match is A, B, and C to put an equal sum each into a hat ; C, who is the handicapper, makes a match for A and B, who, when they have perused it, put their hands into their pockets, and draw them out closed. Then they open them together, and if both have

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1. Early Records of the Thoroughbred Horse, pp. 110 and 164.

2. Hore's History of Newmarket, vol. iii., p. 277.



money in their hands, the match is confirmed ; if neither have money, it is no match. In both cases the handicapper draws all the money out of the hat ; but if one has money in his hand, and the other none, then it is no match ; and he that has money in his hand is entitled to the deposit in the hat.

It will hardly be seriously believed that the above description of a handicap, hat and all, stood its ground in the *Calendar* down to such comparatively recent days as 1851, after which date it was apparently thought undignified to continue to make any allusion to a hat, accordingly for the next seven years the concluding words "in the hat" were dropped, and the Rule ended with "is entitled to the deposit," till Pond's Rules were entirely superseded in 1858.

These Rules now adopted had not been printed in any of the various *Calendars* except Pond's, which ceased to appear after 1757, but no doubt were familiar to the Stewards of race meetings generally, who appear to have based their decisions on them. It is noticeable that irregularities and disputes rarely found their way into the pages of these early *Calendars*, and when they did, "some gentleman," or in cases of extreme difficulty the Jockey Club, was invariably asked to decide the point at issue, whose Stewards were always regarded as the supreme Court of Appeal.

The decisions in those days appeared to follow the spirit rather than the actual letter of the law, but the findings generally gave satisfaction to the disputants, owners at that time being mainly derived from the landed class and their connections, and it was only when the multitude joined their ranks that the existing Rules had continually to be increased and strengthened, to meet the ever-changing status of the adherents of the Turf.

Pond's first Rule, as re-printed in this *Calendar*, was "Horses take their ages from May-day." This Rule, which had been in force from the earliest times, remained unchanged till January 1, 1834, when it was ordered that all horses running at Newmarket should take their ages from January 1 for the future.

1798. A very curious accident which happened at Chester Races is recorded. Mr. Lockley's Hairbreadth, by Escape, bolted when leading near the winning posts, jumped the cords, and struck his head against an officer's helmet, being killed instantaneously. Elsewhere, an eye-witness of the occurrence has related that it was Captain (afterwards Sir John) Miller, of the Cornwall Fencible Cavalry, then quartered at Chester, who was knocked down by this horse.

It would appear that he was riding on the course, and the spike of his helmet, whilst on his head, entered the brain of Hairsbreadth, and killed him on the spot. The only injury Captain Miller received was a black eye, and so slight was the shock to him that he was able to attend the Race ball the same evening.

The *Calendar* states this year :—

An epidemical Distemper in Horses of every description broke out this Spring, and appears to have affected the racing stables in every part of the kingdom to a considerable degree for nearly two months, commencing a short time previous to Epsom races.

The striking difference between the Autumn and Spring performances of several horses that were suffered to start with the Distemper upon them may in a great measure be attributed to this circumstance.

This sporadic infectious disease, sometimes known as Newmarket fever, or more scientifically called influenza, at irregular intervals has raged among horses in this country, and at times has almost amounted to a plague. Just a century earlier, the first Lord Bristol records in his *Diary* a precisely similar outbreak at Newmarket, causing great mortality amongst horses, and interference with racing.

This same year, at the Houghton Meeting, a Match with somewhat novel conditions was arranged between Sir Charles Bunbury's bay filly by Whiskey, and Mr. Treves' Speranza by Dragon, 8st. 2lb. each, for five Lottery Tickets. The Match was however compromised, and in the List of Winning Horses the Whiskey filly is duly credited with "two Lottery Tickets," as forfeit, no value being stated. These tickets

corresponded with the suggested "Premium Bonds" of recent date, and were an immensely popular form of speculation.

In heavy black-letter type we find it stated :—

### IRELAND, 1798.

#### NO RACES THIS YEAR.

This, it will be remembered was the year of the great Irish Rebellion, when, having invited the French to assist them, a landing was made at Killala Bay, in County Mayo, and the invaders advanced towards Roscommon, before they were ignominiously crushed. What little racing there was, is included in the Irish section of the *Calendar* for the following year, the above notice not being strictly accurate.

**1800.** At the Curragh Meeting, for the Grinder Stakes, subscribers were required "to be qualified on oath" that they had owned their horses two months before running.

Two-year-olds at Newmarket in May were run over the Yearling Course of 2 furlongs 147 yards, but at the Houghton Meeting in October following they were asked to race, carrying a feather, in conjunction with horses of all ages, over the last three miles of the Beacon Course.

Contrariwise, the next year, three-year-olds competing against two-year-olds were run over the above-named Yearling Course, of little more than a quarter of a mile, though after the custom of the day they were officially termed two-year-olds and yearlings, as the race in question took place in April, and ages at this period were reckoned from the 1st of May.

At the Montrose Meeting, which lasted four days, the concluding race presented a somewhat unique feature, as Mr. Fletcher's Logie O'Buchan was matched to run six miles before Mr. Graham's Sandy had completed five, for a stake of five hundred guineas, each to carry 8st. Mr. Fletcher paid two hundred and fifty guineas forfeit, which is not surprising, as Logie O'Buchan had won two four-mile heats on the Tuesday, and two of three similar heats the following day, Sandy having been distanced in the latter race.

**1801.** Mr. Fletcher's Rolliker at the Hamilton (Scotland) Meeting, went over the course alone for the Ten Miles Match against Mr. Barclay's Tally-Ho, who did not go to the Post. At the same meeting, without further comment, it is stated that "the Mule Race was won by Mr. Baker."

In the Marquis of Clanricarde's Plate at the Curragh Meeting, the rider of the winner broke, and dropped, his stirrup in the course of the race. On his way to scale "he took the stirrup from a Gentleman, and weighed with it." The Stewards objected to him on the ground of having taken up weight, but he refused to abide by their decision, though willing to "leave it to the Stewards of the Turf Club." The Curragh Stewards thereupon informed him that if their ruling was upset, they would themselves pay him the value of the Stakes, besides paying the Plate to the winner, so were prepared to back their opinion in a very practical manner.

A singular condition of a race at the Second October Meeting at Newmarket was an allowance of 3-lb. for "those bred in Ireland, or got by untried stallions, or by Coriander, Whiskey, or Drumnator." As Coriander had got seven winners, Whiskey two, and Drumnator one the previous season, the reason for this allowance is not obvious, nor why Irish horses should have been so favoured, unless it was with a view to inducing them to take the hazardous journey.

This year was remarkable for the Derby and Oaks, then run on successive days, both being won by Sir Charles Bunbury's Eleanor, who started favourite for each race, and was the first occasion on which the Derby was won by a filly. On the institution of the race in 1780, the usual allowance of 3lb. was made to fillies, but only two had actually started in the twenty-one years of its history.

The allowance, however, being raised to 5lb. this year, which has been peculiar to this race ever since, two fillies came to the post, and, as the betting foreshadowed, finished first and third, the latter being the Duke of Grafton's Remnant. In spite of the increased allowance, no filly was again successful

for fifty-six years, when Blink Bonny won, followed at varying intervals by Shotover, Signorinetta, Tagalie, and Fifinella.

So long ago as 1784 the distance of the Derby, originally one mile, was increased to one and a half, which the Oaks had been from the commencement, while the weights have undergone revision from time to time.

**1804.** A very famous Match was decided at York races this year, when "Mr. Flint's Brown Thornville, by Volunteer out of Abigail, aged, rode by the owner, beat Colonel Thornton's ch. h. Vinagrillio, aged, rode by Mrs. T., 4 miles, 500 gs."

Contemporary accounts state that "Mrs. T.'s" mount was nineteen years old, and broke down in the race. From the abbreviated manner in which the lady jockey's name was given in the *Calendar*, we surmise Mr. Weatherby was rather ashamed of the performance, and regarded it as a burlesque on racing.

**1805.** The following year "Mrs. Thornton" once more appeared as a jockey at York, this time with success, when on Colonel Thornton's Louisa, in receipt of 4st., she beat Mr. Bromford's Allegro, ridden by the great F. Buckle, over two miles, for 500gs., the verdict being half a neck.

The spectacle of a lady riding against the great jockey, Buckle, attracted a vast concourse to the races. She rode side saddle, in purple jacket and cap, nankeen skirt, purple shoes, and embroidered stockings; and picture, poetry, and prose have combined to preserve the memory of this unique contest, which perhaps it was nevertheless wise not to have repeated.

Colonel Thornton was the well-known Yorkshire sportsman, who had purchased the estate of Allerton Mauleverer (now the seat of Lord Stourton) from H.R.H. the Duke of York, for £110,000, and was the author of the celebrated "Sporting Tours" in Scotland and France. He had himself ridden at York races in 1778, when, giving away a distance (240 yards) at starting, according to a custom which sometimes then



obtained, he beat Mr. Hare's Tuo Quoque in a Match for 100gs., four miles.

This year, for the first time, Pond's "Rules Concerning Horse Racing in General" were given, without any acknowledgment of the source from which they were derived, and in future were incorporated into the official *Calendar*, and adopted as its own rules.

In Ireland at the Tralee Meeting, a Plate of £50 was given by "the Gentlemen of the Profession of the Law of the County of Kerry, for Horses the property of Gentlemen who must have, prior to the first day of the Meeting, actually expended in fair adverse litigation the sum of £200. Horses of persons who have expended £1,000 allowed 3lb." Thus the owner was handicapped on his own performances (in the Courts) rather than those of his horse, though it is satisfactory to find sporting instincts so strongly evidenced in the legal profession. The actual race, as it was most fitting it should do, ended in an objection, and the ultimate Court of Appeal, the Stewards of the Turf Club, had to adjudicate on, and determine the case.

**1806.** A very valuable Match was run this season at Lewes Meeting, Lord Darlington's Pavilion, by Waxy, beating Mr. Mellish's Sancho, 8st. 7lb. each, four miles, for two thousand guineas.

**1807.** This year, at the Houghton Meeting at Newmarket, which as usual extended over six days of the week, two Matches were run between Galloways.

The result of certain cases, already decided by the Jockey Club, and termed "Adjudged Cases," were for the first time published in the *Calendar*, as precedents to guide local Stewards, and must have been of considerable assistance to them.

**1810.** At Stockton, a horse which had not been entered in due time, was started, and won his race. The Stewards objected to him, but for some unexplained reason

the Clerk of the Course paid over the stakes to his owner. This

“drove Mr. Milburn [the owner of the rightful winner] to the necessity of an appeal to the Laws, when he, of course, recovered. The cause was tried at the Guildhall, London, before Lord Ellenborough. There was a clause in the advertisement of these races authorising the Stewards to determine all Disputes, on which the learned Judge remarked that the Stewards had already decided, and that such decisions ought never to be disturbed, unless there was reason to impute corruption or partiality.”

Such a sound legal ruling, in favour of the powers of Stewards, must have greatly strengthened their hands in dealing with disputes, and deprecated appeals to the Law Courts.

### 1811. The *Calendar* relates that at the Newmarket First Spring Meeting :—

In this and the following week, Spaniard, Pirouette, The Dandy, and a colt of Sir F. Standish's died in consequence of a solution of arsenic having been put in the Trough at which they were watered. Two horses (Reveller and Cœlebs) drank out of the same Trough, but were recovered, as it is believed, by administering *Vinegar* to them, which is said to have the effect of neutralising arsenic. This is confirmed by an instance within our knowledge of a child recovered by the same remedy, who had accidentally swallowed arsenic. The fact of *Vinegar* being an antidote to the effect of arsenic appeared to us to be too important not to be noticed, especially as it is not generally known, even amongst medical men.

The Jockey Club offered a reward of five hundred guineas to any person giving such information as would secure the conviction of the poisoner, and subsequently one Dan Dawson, a well-known tout, was apprehended on the charge, one of his accomplices having turned informer, and Dawson was tried for the offence at Cambridge Assizes in March, 1812. There was no doubt as to his guilt, as the evidence against him was conclusive, but with the glorious uncertainty of the law, the Judge directed that the prisoner should be discharged, on the ground that he had been indicted as a principal, instead of an accessory before the fact, which in point of law could not be maintained.

Fortunately, Dawson was not set at liberty, but detained on a further charge of poisoning horses three years earlier, and was again tried at the Assizes in July, 1812. This time he was duly sentenced to death, and having been warned he might entertain no hope of mercy, was hanged at Cambridge on the 8th of August, following.

Four years previously, a similar dastardly outrage had occurred at Doncaster, two horses being killed by these men, and, indeed, Dawson confessed to having poisoned some twenty horses, several of which had died. The Jockey Club bore the expenses of the prosecution, which amounted to £1,500.

**1812.** Nantwich Races :—" Mr. Cowap's ch. m. lost her " Match against time by seven seconds. She was to " have run two miles in four minutes, carrying a feather."

**1813.** It is worthy of note that the first three fillies in the Oaks were all by Waxy.

As an instance of the laxity in acceptance of entries, as compared with the stringency observed at the present time, the winner of the Gold Cup at Nottingham was objected to by the owner of the second horse, on the ground of imperfect description, she having been entered merely as "B. f. by Diamond, 4 yrs old." The Stewards over-ruled the objection, as they were satisfied "no fraud was intended." This ruling, however, does not appear to have commended itself to the compiler of the *Calendar*, for he added in a footnote :—

We take this opportunity of cautioning Gentlemen to be more particular in their nominations, *i.e.*, always to give such a description as can belong to no other than the horse intended to be named, or described, especially when (as in this case) sent by letter from such a distance as to render it impossible for the Clerk of the Course to point out the omission in time.

The winner might consider himself fortunate that he lived in these primitive times, for one's sympathies certainly lie with the owner of the second horse.

1816. We have already seen that in cases of dispute at any race meeting, the Jockey Club was usually appealed to as the authoritative body to decide the matter at issue, although they had no actual control elsewhere than at Newmarket. This year a most important advance was made towards the good order and government of the Turf generally.

The Stewards of the Jockey Club published a notice in the *Calendar* that "persons who may be inclined to submit any matters in dispute to the decision of the Stewards of the Jockey Club" were at liberty to do so, on observing certain conditions, viz. :—

The matter in dispute must relate to Horse Racing. The parties must agree on a statement of the case in writing ; request the opinion of the Stewards of the Jockey Club thereon, and agree to abide by their decision ; and such agreement must be signed by the parties. If the dispute should not occur at Newmarket, the reference must come through, or with the sanction of, the Stewards of the races where it happened. Except the case arise at Newmarket, they decline giving any opinion where facts alone are in dispute, such as complaints of foul riding, etc. All such cases are most effectually investigated on the spot, whilst the matter is fresh in the memories of the witnesses, where their attendance is most easily procured, and their credibility best understood.

Thus, for the first time, the Jockey Club volunteered to intervene when so requested ; the conditions imposed could not well have been improved upon, and a great step was thus made towards the ultimate aim of placing all meetings under one control.

The Stewards further announced that in cases where the qualification of a horse is objected to before starting, they considered it incumbent on the owner to produce a certificate, or proper document, to the Clerk of the Course before the race is run, and that if such horse started without, he must be deemed disqualified, and that they should always rule accordingly.

A very valuable Sweepstakes of two hundred guineas each, and a Gold Cup to the winner, was run at the Curragh April

Meeting, the winner being curiously described as "Colonel "Bruen's English filly, Wire, by Waxy" (out of the great Penelope). This filly had been bought six months previously from the Duke of Grafton for, it is said, three thousand guineas, and the race in consequence excited much interest on both sides of the Channel. It is not clear why her nationality should be so pointedly marked, for certainly another of the runners, Lord Cremorne's Petuaria (the Roman name for Brough) was a Yorkshire bred mare, purchased from the Bishop Burton stud, being by Orville out of the ever-famous Mandane, so should have been entitled to equal distinction.

This race was followed by another Sweepstakes, of 25 gs. each, "those who declared forfeit in ten minutes after the "weights were named paid but five guineas each." Five subscribers availed themselves of this concession, while one incurred the full forfeit, being unable to make up his mind in the required space of time.

At the First October Meeting, the Newmarket St. Leger was won by Mr. Terrett's bay colt Royal Sovereign, who started at 30 to 1. Though no allusion to the fact will be found in the *Calendar*, this is the earliest instance on record of a horse being vanned to a race meeting, it being generally supposed that Lord Lichfield's Elis, who won the Doncaster St. Leger in 1836, was the first horse to be thus conveyed by road. Mr. Terrett was a large grazier in Worcestershire, and wishing to save his horse the long journey on foot, put him in his bullock float, and so travelled to Newmarket, with the above happy result.

The difficulty of discriminating between various unnamed horses of almost identical pedigree was commented on by Mr. Weatherby, who mentioned that he had found it impossible to differentiate between sundry unnamed three-year-old colts, all by Camillus, the property of Sir M. M. Sykes, who had been entered without any reference to their dams, thus early emphasising the necessity of owners naming their horses, which ultimately became so acute as to call for a special Rule



being passed in 1913, making it obligatory for every horse above two years old to bear a name.

It may be mentioned that the whole of Sir Mark Sykes' nine runners this year were unnamed animals, all got by the one sire (Camillus), that several were out of mares who themselves had no name, and some were own brothers and sisters, so the ensuing confusion may well be appreciated.

**1817.** A very important order was made that no person could enter or start a horse unless he had, before the time of starting, paid all arrears of stakes and forfeits, thus barring defaulters from running horses for the future, but unless owners, on whom at that time devolved the duty of collecting stakes due to them<sup>1</sup>, advertised the names of such persons, there was no means of enforcing this regulation, which must have been more or less of a dead letter.

**1819.** A heath tax of one guinea each horse towards the expense of repairing the course and exercise ground at Newmarket was first imposed, and trainers were required to deliver to the Keeper of the Match Book twice a year a list of the horses which had been under their care. The future was to prove this tax to be as elastic, and capable of as much expansion, as the income tax, when the rapid increase of the number of horses in training necessitated corresponding expenditure.

**1820** At Cheltenham races, the rope used for the purpose of preventing the spectators from riding in with the racehorses, was drawn across the course before the last of the field had passed, and one of the runners fell over it, but without serious injury. Later (1838) it was found necessary to pass a Rule "that any Member of a Racing Club riding in with the leading horses in a race, shall be fined to the amount of 25 sovs., and all other persons to the amount of 5 sovs." In William Day's entertaining "Reminiscences of the Turf" it

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1. page 239.

will be remembered how he scandalised Martin Starling, the keeper of the Course at Newmarket, by riding in almost alongside Dulcibella when she won the Cesarewitch in 1860, the Judge (Clark) facetiously telling him that he had placed him second ! Day acknowledged that he had committed a terrible offence, and had rendered himself liable to a fine of £5, but it was not pressed on this occasion, in spite of the wrath of Starling.

**1821.** The description of four additional courses, other than at Newmarket, were now given in the *Calendar*, with an intimation that the list would be added to in future volumes, which schedule still is retained.

At Walsall, the last race of the meeting was for “Beaten Horses,” and was won by Sir Thomas Mostyn with a horse which had not run in any of the previous races there, but as he had been beaten at other meetings elsewhere, Sir Thomas contended that he was eligible to run. The owner of the second horse objected to him, and the local Stewards, feeling unequal to decide the question, referred it to the Jockey Club, The conditions of the race, one would have thought, did not admit of a moment’s doubt, nevertheless, many months appear to have elapsed before the Stewards decided the point, and disqualified Sir Thomas Mostyn’s horse.

At a general meeting of the Stewards and Members of the Jockey Club, it was reported to them that one William Taylor, “commonly called SNIPE,” had been discovered watching a trial with a telescope, and they accordingly required him to attend before them, “on which the said William Taylor was called in, and acknowledged the truth of the charge against him, but refused to inform the meeting who were his employers.”

It was then resolved to serve a notice on him to keep off the Heath grounds, and that the adjoining occupiers of land should also be requested to serve similar notices on William Taylor. It was also further resolved that any other person

likewise detected should be warned off the Heath. As a personal warning to "Snipe," and a deterrent to other evil-doers, this notice was repeated entire in the book *Calendar* for the next six years.

The Watching of Trials continued to be a penal offence until such times as the publication of the universal Training Reports in the newspapers reduced the regulation to a dead letter. Even now Rule 176 (v.) has some direct bearing on the subject, and it appears that a "man of observation," though allowed to use his eyes, is properly debarred from making enquiries of the persons concerned in trials.

**1823.** The Jockey Club issued plain and concise rules as to the mode of entry of horses which had not previously started, and the particulars which it was necessary to give, to distinguish such horses from any others. Hitherto, apparently, there had been no regulation framed on this most important subject, and everyone had done more or less as they pleased in the way of giving description, as we saw in the case of the "B. f. by Diamond, 4 yrs" at Nottingham in 1813.<sup>1</sup>

For the first time in the history of the *Racing Calendar*, the name of the winning Jockey was regularly included in the return of each race. The year before it had been given at a few meetings only, but previous to that, no information whatever was obtainable as to any of the riders, unless they had been killed or injured in course of a race, when the incident was duly recorded, so the names of famous old-time jockeys are not available.

It will be noticed on reading through the old *Calendars*, that by insensible and slow degrees, racing, from being merely an amusement for the populace, became in a great measure, very much of a business. Macaulay even observed this fact, for in his History of England, writing of Newmarket, he says, "Now [1864] a place rather of business than pleasure, but

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1. page 183.

"in the Autumn of that age [1695] the gayest and most "luxurious spot in the island."

No excuse, however, save the entertainment of the rabble, could be advanced for such races as "Cocked-Hat Stakes," riders wearing cocked-hats being allowed 6 lb., which figured at Hampton Races in this, and the preceding year. On this occasion the race was won by Domenichino, by Vandyke Junior, and the large "silver-gilt cup, cover, and stand, chased with a wreath of oak foliage and acorns, bands and fluting of acanthus leaves, and with oak-branch handles," weighing 153 oz. 18 dwts., made to commemorate his "notable" victory, was sold a few years ago by Messrs. Christie, amongst the collection of sporting trophies belonging to the late Sir Walter Gilbey, and realised £46.

The race in question did not escape without objection, for the Stewards, not being satisfied that the hat of one of the riders sufficiently complied with the conditions, required him to carry 6 lb. extra weight.

Similar races were held at Shrewsbury, Oswestry, and even at Goodwood, for several years up to 1829, where so great a Turf reformer as Lord George Bentinck rode the winner in the days of his youth, shewing that such grotesque exhibitions were contagious, and needed repression.

The same kind of buffoonery continued elsewhere till a much later date, as the Wide-awake Stakes, "Gentlemen "riders in wide-awake hats," was run at the Sandbach (Cheshire) Meeting in 1841, and in 1853 the "Bonnet Stakes" at Howth races continued the practice.

**1825.** A notorious fraud was exposed this year. A horse called "Tom Paine," and entered with a specious false pedigree, had for the past three seasons been winning a great number of races confined to half-breds, and had become quite a celebrity. It was now proved that he was in reality the thoroughbred horse Tybalt, bred by Lord Grosvenor, and got by Thunderbolt, out of his famous mare Meteora.

Shortly after winning the Billesdon Coplow Stakes (the h.b. "Derby" of that day), the fraud was discovered. "The Stewards therefore determined that the money ought to be "given up to the owner of Bogtrotter" (the second horse) "and "all bets on the race be deemed void." One only hopes that the owner of "Tom Paine" saw fit to comply with this pious expression of opinion on the part of the Croxton Park Stewards, and further made restitution of his ill-gotten gains of the past three years.

As the *Calendar* seldom gave owners any initials, it is not possible to say if Mr. Watson, the owner of the horse, was allowed to continue to participate in the sport. It is, however, noteworthy that a person of this name entered the notorious Running Rein for the Derby of 1843.

At Preston, the famous horse Lottery, by Tramp, was engaged in the Borough Members' Plate of 70 sovs., but as no other owner would run against him, he was given twenty guineas to withdraw, the value of the Plate being reduced by that amount. The race otherwise would have been declared void, in the absence of the required number of "reputed running horses," a frequent stipulation. Singularly enough, in later days, after his son, also called Lottery, had won the first Grand National Steeplechase in 1839, certain races advertised as a condition of entry: "Lottery barred." In the preceding century occasionally horses by Eclipse, or Highflier, were either barred or penalised, their entry deterring other competitors.

**1826.** Emilius, winner of the Derby three years before, was advertised to stand at Riddlesworth at 12 gs., half-bred mares 5 gs., which remained the approximate fee of a Derby winner for the next twenty-five years; a striking contrast to the sums demanded in the present times for horses of this rank, when Gay Crusader, Gainsborough, and others, started their stud career at 400 gs., plus the somewhat uncalled-for addition of one guinea the groom, in the case of horses covering at such a fee.



**1828.** This year the Rules and Orders of the Jockey Club were entirely revised, and for the first time divided into sections, and numbered up to 61, quite a new departure.

**1830.** The Rules of Horse Racing (Pond's) were for the first time numbered up to 40, which greatly added to their usefulness for the purposes of reference.

The Ascot Gold Cup of this and the following year proved the exception to the rule that on the Turf all are equal, whether above or below it, it being restricted to horses *bona fide* the property, at the time of starting, of a Member of the Jockey Club, or of the Upper and Lower Rooms at Newmarket, or of those Clubs in London whose Members may be admitted into the above Clubs without ballot. This is one of the very few instances of the exclusion of the general public from entrance to any great race, and is supposed to have been directed against Mr. Gully, he being a bookmaker, whose success would not have been palatable at that time to certain Members of the Club.

As was natural, the new rule roused resentment in certain quarters, and as a protest against its exclusiveness, William Chifney entered Priam for the race of 1831, though he well knew the horse would not be allowed to start if he remained his property.

**1831.** Mr. Osbaldeston's famous Match against Time was considered of sufficient importance to be recorded in the *Calendar* in these terms :—

#### NEWMARKET HOUGHTON MEETING, 1831.

Saturday, November 5th. Mr. Osbaldeston having made a wager of 1,000 gs. that he would ride 200 miles in 10 hours, and the ground, forming a circle of 4 miles, having been marked out on and about the Round Course, he started about 7 o'clock this morning, and performed the distance in 8 hours and 42 minutes, without apparent difficulty. He changed his horse every 4 miles, and rode 29 different horses. A bet of 1,000 to 100 sov. was laid that he did not perform the distance in 9 hours.

The above details of the Match were not included in the

return of the races run at the Houghton Meeting, but occupy a separate page at the end of the *Calendar* for that year.

As a sequel to the Match, the official card on the last day of the races contained :—

“ The Osbaldeston Plate of 50*l.* for horses that had galloped “in the match against time. R.C.” (Round Course, 3 miles, 4 fur., 187 yds.) The race was won by Lord Lowther’s Br. c. Timekeeper, by Smolensko, 3 yrs., 7st. 10lb. (Chapple), from eight others.

Seventy years earlier, at Newmarket, Mr. John Woodcock had successfully accomplished the feat of riding a hundred miles a day for twenty-nine days in succession. He was allowed to use any number of horses, not exceeding twenty-nine, but only to ride one horse each day. On one occasion his mare having tired, after going sixty miles, he had to begin afresh, and thus rode a hundred and sixty miles that day.

**1832**, Singularly enough, it does not appear to have ever been the practice to publish the names of the Members of the Jockey Club, and the public generally were unaware of the identity of those who were responsible for the government of the Turf. Our own copy of the *Racing Calendar* was formerly the property of Mr. Stanlake Batson, the well-known owner of Plenipotentiary, and a very old member of the Club. Each volume bears his autograph, sometimes with the addition of the words “ 1st Life Guards,” and “ Horseheath,” where he resided. In the book for this year, Mr. Batson, who was at the time one of the Stewards, has pasted in a press cutting, headed :

#### THE JOCKEY CLUB.

This celebrated Club, the legislators of the Turf, and its protection against fraud, ignorance, and mismanagement, has hitherto been known only to the public through the “ Laws and Regulations,” which have for so many years been the authority in racing matters, or by its frequent decisions in disputed points, a List of the Members never having yet been published. We are now enabled to furnish their

names, and our readers cannot fail to agree with us that while the Turf is under the control and patronage of so distinguished a body, its interests and honour are in safe keeping.

[Here follows the list of sixty-six names ; but, as they were published in the *Calendar* for 1835 for the first time, it is not necessary to give them.]

In the above enumeration, we have placed a cross before those Members who keep horses, their number amounting to nearly two-thirds of the whole.

The Jockey Club issued a Notice in this *Calendar* that as much uncertainty prevailed with regard to the operation of the Rules and Orders of the Club, they thought it proper to declare that they apply to races at Newmarket ONLY, and that “the Jockey Club having no authority to extend their “Rules and Orders to any other place ; although they have, “for the sake of greater uniformity and certainty, recommended “the adoption of the same Rules to the Stewards of other races, “and that the Stewards of the Jockey Club will not receive “any references of disputes from any places except those at “which the Rules and Regulations of Newmarket shall have “been declared to be in force in the printed articles of those “races.”

This announcement plainly had for its object the bringing of all race meetings under the single control of the Stewards, and rendering all others outside the pale of recognised authority, a policy bound to exert a most beneficial influence on the conduct of the Turf. This small beginning of uniting the various race-meetings of this country under one supreme jurisdiction, has finally culminated in reciprocal agreements with the Jockey Clubs and the Turf Authorities of practically all the other civilised countries of the world where racing is followed, for the mutual enforcement of sentences passed on offenders against the good order and discipline of the Turf, and would have effectually prevented the German, Lichtwald, running a four-year-old in the memorable Derby of 1844, he being a disqualified person in that country at the time.

**1834.** A most important Rule, which at first was not without its drawbacks, but nevertheless a step in the right direction, came into operation on January 1st this year. Pond's Rule, which had been reprinted annually in the *Calendar*, was "Horses take their Ages from May-day," and this had been the custom from the earliest times. It was now decided by the Jockey Club that "Horses shall be considered "at Newmarket as taking their ages from the 1st of January, "instead of the 1st of May. With respect to other places, they "will continue to be considered as taking their ages from the "1st of May until the Stewards of those races shall order "otherwise."

This dual system of calculating the age of horses must have been the cause of much confusion, as in reading the reports of races which took place in the early Spring, or the beginning of May, it is often difficult to find out what the ages of the horses engaged really were. Frequently a note appears under the heading, stating "Ages for April," or "Ages for May," quite irrespective of which month the meeting was actually held in. A survival of the practice still obtains when we find the Newmarket "First July Meeting" beginning in June, and the "First October Meeting" in September.

As an example of the complexity of this arrangement, we may cite the case of Lord Stanley's brown colt, Charlatan, 3 years, running on March 12th, 1839, at Northampton, whereas at Warwick eight days later he is described as a two-year-old, and this is only an isolated instance of what was for some years quite a frequent occurrence.

**1835.** A list of Members of the Jockey Club was first given in the *Calendar*, but the three Stewards were not distinguished from the other Members.

**1836.** It is recorded that at the Newmarket Houghton Meeting:—

There was a heavy fall of snow on the Saturday morning (October

29th) preceding the races, and it remained on the ground till the Tuesday evening. Several of the races fixed for Monday were in consequence postponed. The snow was cleared from the Criterion Course on Monday morning, and on Tuesday above a hundred men, besides numerous stable boys, were employed from an early hour in clearing a tract of sufficient width from the Ditch to the Turn of the Lands.

At Kelso Spring Meeting, the Oats Stakes of five bolls each (a boll=140 lb.), if a somewhat primitive prize, at any rate assured the winner of a full granary, there being fourteen subscribers. This type of stake was but a reversion to an older style, for at Brackley (Northamptonshire) in 1612, the conditions of one of the races were as follows :—

It is agreed between Henry Throgm'ton [Throgmorton] and Thomas Throgm'ton, the daye and yeare above written, that the above named are to meete together the Twesday after Michaelmas next, at Brackley Cwoorse, and thether to bring a graye mare and a gray shorne mane nadgge, and each of them to ridde the same coursse, uppon equal wate, in there parsones for x quarter of oates."

Another race at this Kelso Meeting bore the free and easy title of the Loose and Lazy Stakes, and also had fourteen subscribers.

In direct contradistinction to the customs of our forefathers, whose main idea of racing seemed to be, the longer the course the better the Match, and seldom ran their horses a less distance than four miles, and often six, or eight, the Scurry Stakes, at the Croxton Park Meeting, for horses of all ages, was run over a course "a little less than the third of a mile," the winner this year being Lord Chesterfield's chestnut mare Drab, ridden by Lord Wilton.

**1838.** In October it was unanimously resolved by the Stewards :

That it is the opinion of this Club that it is necessary to declare their extreme disapprobation of horses being started for races, without the intention on the part of their owners of trying to win with them.

This year for the first time the names of the Stewards of



the Jockey Club headed the list of Members, as has been invariably done since. They were :

Earl of Chesterfield,  
Duke of Beaufort,  
Hon. Capt. Rous.

For a very long time past, the Indexes in the *Calendar* had been a source of much adverse criticism, and not without due cause. It seemed as if the compilers were bent on giving the minimum of information with the maximum of trouble in this matter, and their system had been long condemned. It will scarcely be credited that up to this date it was impossible to ascertain the performances of any individual horse without going through the entire index, unless one happened to know to whom it belonged, as the horses were not indexed in the *Calendar* under their own names, but under the names of their owners.

The plan originally adopted entailed even greater powers of research, for the owners themselves, instead of being given alphabetically, were placed in order of their rank, noblemen coming first, and the remainder more or less indiscriminately.

The inconvenience of such a system causes wonder that it could have been tolerated for so long a period, more especially when the returns of racing given in the various sporting magazines were accompanied by an alphabetical list of the runners, and it is inexplicable that it was not insisted on in the *Calendar*.

The only possible explanation is that it was the method adopted by Cheny in the first *Calendar*, 1727, and the subsequent compilers being, one and all, the most arrant copyists, had all followed in the same groove in this as in other matters, and consequently any improvements in the book were at a discount.

In the case of a horse who had changed hands during the year, his performances were distributed under the names of his several owners, and his other references may, or may not, be repeated, or what was much worse, sometimes only a.

portion of them, leading one to suppose it was a complete record. So it was extremely difficult to tell if a horse had run at all, or how many times he had started, without an infinity of research.

It must have been therefore a matter of great satisfaction when Mr. Weatherby included in this *Calendar* "An alphabetical list of Horses which have run in Great Britain in 1838, referring to the Name in which each may be found in the preceding Index," thus, if one required to look up the performances of, say, Don John, the winner of the St. Leger this year, the horse was indexed thus:—

Don John.

Ld. Chesterfield.

Then on further search under his owner's name, the horse's full references were given.

Cumbrous as this method was, it was a great improvement on the old system, which had for its sole recommendation the fact that it enabled one to see precisely what horses each owner had running in any particular year.

**1839.** That the old-time laxity of entry was no longer countenanced was evidenced this year, when Mr. W. Ridsdale's Bloomsbury, the winner of the Derby, was objected to by the owner of the second horse (the eccentric Fulwar Craven, who forbid anyone to add either prefix or suffix to his name, and thus his entry appears in the *Calendar* as "Fulwar Craven's b. f. Deception"), on the ground of an informality in the pedigree of the horse, the question being whether Bloomsbury should not have been described as by *Tramp or Mulatto*.

The matter became a subject of litigation, and was tried at the Liverpool Assizes in August, when a verdict was found for Mr. Ridsdale, his entry having been proved to be in order, and the colt to have been correctly described as by *Mulatto*, out of *Arcot Lass*.

The Derby Stakes, in the meantime, had been paid into the Court of Exchequer, as were the Ascot Derby Stakes,

which he had since won, also withheld at the instance of Lord Lichfield, pending the settlement of the Derby case.

Races to Come had been included in the *Calendar* from the earliest date, but were not indexed until this year, when a far better and more comprehensive one was afforded than that provided for the more important section of Races Past, the horses being shewn under their own names, and in most cases, with pedigrees duly recorded.

**1840.** Cocking, which had always been inseparable from racing since the days of the earliest *Calendars*, but had gradually declined in popularity, now appeared for the last time, having been declared illegal by Act of Parliament.

**1841.** It has been before remarked that since 1823 it had been the custom to give the name of the winning jockey only, and up to this year in cases where the winner was ridden by Elnathan Flatman, he is always returned in the *Calendar* merely as "Nat," without his surname. A reference to the volume for this year will shew his name thus recorded three times at the Newmarket First Spring Meeting, and "Elnathan Flatman Street" in the town still preserves the memory of this great jockey.

**1842.** A most useful addition will be noticed in the *Calendar* for this year. Hitherto in the reports of races the placings of the horses have been indicated by numerals, but it will scarcely be credited that up to the present year no information had ever been given as to the distance by which the race was won, and even now it concerned only the actual winner, and did not state the relative positions of the second and third.

Consequently, in reading the accounts of old races, before this date, we are afforded no details as to the ease, or otherwise, with which they were won, and it is only by reference to outside sources that we find, for instance, a St. Leger like that of 1783, won by "half a head," or other celebrated

races by "half a neck," verdicts which no longer find a place in the Judge's book.

**1843.** This year a very important step was taken by the Stewards, when they announced that for the future they should take no cognisance of matters concerning betting. In the past it had occupied much of the attention of the Jockey Club, and many of the Rules were wholly concerned with the regulation of bets, as apart from racing. They accordingly issued a notice recommending "all persons having disputes thereupon to decide the same by referees, one to be chosen by each of the parties, and the two to select a third," as the Jockey Club would no longer intervene in such matters. The Rules headed "Respecting Stakes, Forfeits, and Bets," still, however, continued to appear in the *Calendar*, and those dealing solely with betting remained as heretofore in spite of the notice.

The conditions for the Somersetshire Stakes at Bath this year required the winner to contribute "£10 for preparing the course, etc., and £5 for weights and scales."

A separate return of the principal races in Ireland had been included in the various *Calendars* from 1741, but for some obscure reason, the customary Index to the runners was abandoned in 1806, and not given again till 1843, so no index of any kind is available for Irish racing during the intermediate period. On the resumption of the Index this year, and also in the two following volumes, merely the name of the horses is stated, without either pedigree or age. It was not until 1850, however, when the English and Irish indices were amalgamated, as at present, that the Irish winners were again included in the "Separate List of Winning Horses" (arranged under their sires), which has been a most useful feature of the *Calendar* from almost the earliest times down to our own day.

**1844.** This year will always be remembered as the most critical one that ever occurred in the history of the Turf. For some time frauds and chicanery had been more

than openly hinted at, and it culminated when it was discovered that the Derby had been actually won by a four-year-old, that another of the runners who had been killed in the same race was also four years old, and that a horse who had been supposed to have a great chance of winning, and started second favourite, had been pulled by his jockey.

Consequently, the Jockey Club immediately after these exposures, intensified by the scandal at Ascot directly afterwards, assembled in general meeting to take into consideration the circumstances that had just arisen, and passed the following resolutions :—

1st.—That cases have occurred in which persons have fraudulently entered to run for stakes, which by the published conditions were limited to horses of a specified age, horses above the age so specified, gaining for the horses so entered an unfair advantage over their competitors, and that races have been won by horses which were in reality not qualified to start.

2nd.—It appears to the Club that such proceedings not only tend to defraud the owners of those horses which would otherwise have been winners, but are calculated to inflict an injury upon the Turf by bringing racing into disrepute, and by deterring honourable men from entering into competition in which they run the risk of being encountered by such dishonest rivals.

Succeeding resolutions provided that the Jockey Club, as patrons of racing, would themselves prosecute, apart from any aggrieved owners of horses, in all cases where fraud was suspected, for the purpose of inflicting on offenders the punishment to which they had rendered themselves liable.

Also that Members of the Jockey Club should have the power, either *before* or after running for any race, to order an examination of any horse's mouth by competent persons, their decision to be final, and if it should be proved to the satisfaction of the Stewards that the horse was not of the age represented, the owner or trainer should be for ever disqualified from running or training any horse.

This, after all, was merely a reversion to a very ancient



law of the Jockey Club, which had been published year by year in the *Calendar* from 1770 to 1818, since when it was omitted, and which provided :—

That the Stewards of the Jockey Club shall appoint some proper person to examine every colt or filly, being of the age of two, three, or four years, at the Ending Post, immediately after running, the first time any colt or filly shall start for any Plate, and such appointed person is to sign a certificate of such examination, and his opinion thereon, which certificate is to be hung up before eight o'clock the evening of the said day of running, in the Coffee-room at Newmarket.

This rule had apparently either been repealed, or fallen into disuse by 1844, but had the Stewards exercised their powers, and ordered an examination of Running Rein's mouth, when the Duke of Rutland first objected to him at Newmarket the previous Autumn, the scandal of the Derby would have been averted.

Moreover, as several persons had lodged objections to the colt *before* the Derby, it seems unaccountable that no certificate of age was demanded by the Stewards, more especially when the antecedents of his owner were notorious. It will be seen that when the matter came before the Law Courts, the Judge at once required the horse to be produced for veterinary inspection, and had the Stewards adopted the same course, the fraud would have been discovered, not only in Running Rein's case, but also as regards Leander, the other four-year-old who ran in this memorable Derby, as he was likewise objected to before the race.

The details of this most audacious fraud have been so often related that they will perhaps scarcely bear repetition, but certain facts are not set forth in the very lengthy account of the case in the *Racing Calendar*, nor elsewhere, so far as we are aware, and are possibly new to many interested in Turf history.

The horse that came in first for the Derby of 1844, was Maccabeus, by Gladiator, out of a Capsicum mare, bred by the well-known sportsman Sir Charles Ibbotson, and purchased by Mr. Goodman as a yearling at Doncaster races

in 1841, Sir Charles being one of the Stewards at the Meeting. The colt had only one engagement in "Races to Come" of this year, 1841, namely, the Derby of 1843, and figures thus :—

"Mr. C. Watson na. b. c. by Gladiator, dam (foaled in 1823) by Capsicum, out of Acklam Lass by Prime Minister."

In the volume for 1842 he is entered by Mr. Goodman in the Tradesmen's Cup at Liverpool, this being his only other engagement.

Maccabeus did not run at all as a two-year-old, but during the following Spring, on reports of his having been very highly tried at Stockbridge, by his trainer Sadler, he early became greatly fancied for the Derby of that year (1843), and it was stated in the press of the day "Maccabeus has become decidedly second favourite, the party have backed him to win an immense stake, and do not *hedge*."

The colt ran at the Epsom Spring Meeting, it being remarked at the time that it was well attended by the "influentials," as they were eager to see the second favourite for the Derby (Maccabeus) run. It was further stated that so impossible had the Goodman party regarded defeat, "that they backed their *pet* at from 5 and 6 to 4, down to 2 to 1 *on* him," and it was mentioned that he was backed for the Derby to win near upon £100,000, so had become a very well-known animal, and his appearance must have been familiar to a number of people.

In the race above alluded to Maccabeus was beaten a neck, and we are told that the result acted like a thunderbolt on the Stockbridge division, who now presumably regarded his chances of winning the Derby as remote. As a matter of fact, according to the *Calendar*, he did not run in that race, or any other, during his three-year-old season, and though we have never seen it commented upon in the many accounts of the scandal, he is marked as "*dead*" in the indexes to both Weatherby's and Johnson's *Calendars*, which in itself is very suggestive in the light of subsequent events.

We now know, however, that this “ dead ” horse reappeared on October 9th the same year, to run at Newmarket, under the new name of “ Running Rein,” with a false age, and described as by The Saddler out of Mab by Duncan Grey, actually, with extraordinary effrontery, entered by his owner, Goodman himself, in a race for two-year-olds. It seems incredible that, with such an obvious clue, no one should have challenged him as the quondam second favourite for the Derby, who Goodman had run at Epsom the previous April, and can scarcely have been so soon forgotten by everyone. He started second in the betting, and won by three lengths.

That some people knew all was not above board is clear from the fact that the Duke of Rutland, the owner of the second horse, lodged an objection to him after the race, on the ground that he was “ three years old.” But it does not appear that the Duke, or anyone else, suggested that he was the same horse that Goodman ran at Epsom, or that he was not the horse he purported to be.

The most unaccountable part of the business seems to be that if the form of Mr. Goodman’s colt was not known to the Stewards, his own character most certainly was, and one would have thought the most minute investigation was necessary before the Duke of Rutland’s objection should have been over-ruled. Goodman had been openly accused in the public Press, a year or two previously, of rascality on the Turf, and was said to have perpetrated a barefaced robbery at the Newmarket Houghton Meeting in 1840, having been publicly dared to ask the Jockey Club to make an impartial investigation into his conduct ; one writer asserting “ where money is in the way, Goodman Levy does not stand upon trifles,” and that “ the wily Jew has several ugly blots, and “ not a few mysteries, to account for.” Further, on another occasion, Goodman had written a letter to the *Sunday Times*, endeavouring to exculpate himself, having been openly accused of engineering glaring robberies connected with racing, so was a very notorious person.

The Stewards did not adjudicate on the case till the Houghton Meeting, and then decided "that the Duke of Rutland had not proved Running Rein to be three years old," but apparently no examination of the colt's mouth was ordered to be made, though it was the obvious, and indeed the only method of settling the matter beyond question. Meantime "Running Rein" had run third in the Clearwell Stakes, but did not start again between that race and the Derby of the following year. Previous to the Derby being run, several persons lodged an objection to the horse, asserting that he was more than three years old. The Stewards, however, allowed him to start, with an intimation that if he came in first, the case should be fully investigated; otherwise apparently no action was to be taken, despite the suspicions which had been so freely aroused.

Immediately after the race Colonel Peel, the owner of Orlando, who finished second, lodged an objection, giving notice to the stakeholders not to pay the money to the owner of "Running Rein." and entered an action in the Court of Exchequer to recover the stakes.

The case was tried at Westminster before Mr. Baron Alderson and a special jury, it having been settled that Mr. A. Wood (in whose name the horse ran) should be plaintiff in the action, and Colonel Peel defendant. The judge at once insisted on the horse being produced for an examination of his mouth, but as he was not forthcoming, and Mr. Wood having asserted he did not know where he was to be found, his lordship ordered the stakes to be paid to Colonel Peel.

No information is afforded in the *Calendar* as to what punishment, if any, was meted out to those concerned in this case, and the horse himself passed into the possession of Mr. O. Parry, but instead of reverting to his original name of Maccabeus, ran at Ascot and York the following season under the name of Zanoni, before being exported as a stallion to Russia, where he stood at Moscow for some seasons. He became the property of Count Bronitskey, and died in 1854.

Leander, who, as before stated, met his death in the Derby, being by a most singular coincidence kicked by Running Rein, had been likewise under suspicion, an objection having been also lodged in his case *before starting* that he was "more than three years old," but he too was permitted to run subject to investigation after the race. A very obvious disadvantage can be urged against the adoption of this course, for in the event of neither horse winning, probably no further steps would have been taken, and the frauds would have remained undiscovered.

The horse, however, having been killed, the Stewards ordered his jaws to be cut off before he was buried, and submitted to two veterinary surgeons, who pronounced them to be those of a four-year-old horse; consequently his owner, Mr. Lichtwald, a German horse dealer, carrying on a very large export trade, was declared for ever disqualified from running horses at any meeting under Jockey Club Rules.

If Goodman's antecedents had been open to grave suspicion, the same remark applied with equal force to Lichtwald, who had likewise been exposed by so popular and widely read a writer as "Nimrod," for his nefarious practices on the Turf, and had actually been "warned off" in Germany, so the Stewards must have been in full possession of the characters of both these men. Writing so recently as March, 1841, in referring to Mr. Lichtwald, "Nimrod" said he had

"thought proper to attempt to come 'Tom Paine'<sup>1</sup> over his countrymen, by starting horses under false pedigrees in Germany. In consequence of this imputation, all his horses have this year run *under conditions* which implied that, although winners, the stakes should be held in abeyance until he proved that the accusations against him were unfounded. His case was submitted to the Committee of Racing, once in Mecklenburg, and twice in Prussia, and the result was that Mr. Lichtwald was no longer allowed to start a horse in those countries.

"It would appear that his horse, Shark, ran a very suspicious race at Newmarket (in 1840) against Mr. Goodman's Mungo Park, but I have not heard the result of the investigation of it by the Jockey Club. The conduct of the German sportsmen is deserving of much praise in

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1. page 189.



sifting this matter to the bottom at no small trouble, and it is to be hoped that the example will not be lost on English sportsmen, inasmuch as the British Turf itself is at present in a position requiring all the support that can be given to it from those who wish to see it continue, and this, not only with reference to its legitimate end, but as a pursuit or amusement in character with the feelings of a gentleman."

Another public writer this same year (1841), alluding to the Shark and Mungo Park incident, with complete indifference to the law of libel, did not hesitate to refer to both Goodman and Lichtwald as "*arcades ambo*,"<sup>1</sup> so the Stewards of the day must have been perfectly well aware of the reputation of the persons with whom they were dealing, and it is little short of marvellous that they should have been treated with such consideration as to allow their horses to start, in the face of the objections which had already been lodged against both, without full enquiry before the race.

Further, later in the year, an investigation took place into the conduct of Samuel Rogers, who rode Mr. Crockford's horse Ratan in the Derby, for which he started second favourite, with the result that he also was warned off, and forbidden to either ride or train horses.

At Ascot, only a fortnight after the Derby, the Stewards were confronted with yet another fraud, when it was discovered that Bloodstone, the winner of the New Stakes (for two-year-olds) was a three-year-old horse, and again the case became a subject of litigation, and on its being tried at Guildford Assizes, the stakes were awarded to the owner of Old England, who finished second.

A peculiarity about this incident is that the owner of Bloodstone, having made a practical certainty of winning the race by running a three-year-old, gave positive orders to his jockey, Bell, to lose the race; he, however, refused to obey these instructions, and the *Calendar* states that "Bloodstone" took the lead, was always several lengths first, and won in a "canter," and Bell was afterwards complimented by the

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1. "Blackguards both."—*Byron*.

Stewards (Lords Rosslyn, Stradbroke, and Exeter) on his conduct in the matter.

Subjoined are extracts from *Races to Come*, giving the entries of Leander for the Derby of 1844, and of Bloodstone for the same race the following year :—

Mr. Lichtwald's b. c. Leander, by Scamander, out of Sister to Mussulman (foaled in 1836).

.....

Mr. R. Newman's ch. c. Bloodstone, by Bubastes, out of Romaike by Rowton.

It may be remarked that a difference exists between these three fraudulent cases, for whereas it was proved that Running Rein and Bloodstone were both instances of substitution of an older animal for horses that really existed, Leander was possibly merely entered with a wrong age, and the *Calendar* shews that he had also run three times the previous season in two-year-old races, winning a Sweepstakes at Ascot, and was second and third at Goodwood, so had run fraudulently all that year.

A reference to the *General Stud Book* would have given no assistance in solving these matters, as Leander's reputed dam, the "Sister to Mussulman," by Muley, was never entered as a brood mare at all, only appearing amongst the produce of her own dam ; and Romaike, the dam of Bloodstone, was not included until five years after these exposures were made. Though it was proved to the satisfaction of the Stewards that there was in reality such a horse as Bloodstone (1842) by Bubastes, and that his elder brother (1841) by Beiram had been substituted for him in the New Stakes at Ascot, the record of their dam Romaike in the *Stud Book* (Vol. vi., page 167) contains no reference to either of these horses, and her produce as given only dates from 1845, though it is expressly stated that she "had some foals previously." This entry in the *Stud Book* might have been amplified with advantage, and similar information given as was afforded in the entry of both the real Running Rein and his counterfeit.

Leander's name will not be found in the index to any volume of the *General Stud Book*, so his pedigree, whether real or fictitious, was never confirmed; and in his case, no doubt, the fraud was facilitated by the fact of his dam's produce never having been registered.

The pseudo Bloodstone, then described as a four-year-old, and with his true pedigree, by Beiram out of Romaike, ran for the Ascot Stakes the following season (1845) under the new name of Perkin Warbeck, but as above stated, both his name, and his entry, are missing from the *Stud Book*, although for years the incident was published in each issue of the *Calendar*, amongst the "Adjudged Cases" of the Jockey Club, so the facts were sufficiently well known.

The following interesting letter on the "Running Rein" case from the famous Mr. Gully to an intimate friend, is in our possession, and has never before been published:—

1844. July 2nd. Osborne's Hotel, Adelphi,

I know you will be delighted to hear the *Thieves* are defeated in their attempt to commit one of the greatest frauds ever attempted to commit; they had not a leg to stand on from the first moment they went into Court. Their witnesses was such, that had the jury to have decided on their own witness, the verdict would have been against them.

As you will see by the papers, they was ashamed to allow the matter to go further. We had undoubted evidence that the horse that won the Derby was four years old, got by Gladiator, dam by Capsicum.

Look at Mr. Worley's and Odell's evidence, and had they had gone on, we could have traced him from one place to another, and have proved every person's hands he went through, up to the time he started for the Derby. We also could have proved where the colt by The Saddler out of Queen (*sic*) Mab was up to a late period.

Lord George will, I expect, follow this up by a Prosecution for conspiracy and fraud, and Wo be to them should they be found guilty and Judge Alderson have to pass sentence on them.

It was universally recognised that the detection of these most audacious and bare-faced frauds was mainly due to the energy and sagacity of Lord George Bentinck, and a large sum of money was collected in order to present him with a

testimonial in recognition of his services. Lord George, however, refused to accept any tribute, either in the form of a service of plate, or otherwise, and at his express wish the "Bentinck Benevolent Fund," for the benefit of the widows and children of deserving trainers and jockeys, who had been left in necessitous circumstances, was established with the sum of money which had been subscribed.

A further compliment was paid to Lord George at the Liverpool meeting the following year, when the Bentinck Testimonial Stakes was inaugurated, and a piece of plate added, which though not given in the *Calendar*, bore the following inscription :—

Honourably to commemorate the public-spirited exertions of Lord George Bentinck, by whose zeal and perseverance a fatal blow was struck at the late irregularities and growing malpractices of the Turf ; a wholesome but unflinching lesson was read to the Owners, Trainers, and Riders of horses ; punctuality, order, obedience, and fairplay were re-established at the Starting Post, and thus to the frequenters of the Race Course, whether attracted to the National Sport by pleasure or by speculation, confidence and satisfaction were secured.

Mr. C. C. Greville, the Clerk of the Council, and a cousin of Lord George's, thus alludes to the occurrence in his *Memoirs*<sup>1</sup>:—

Our case was admirably got up, owing in great measure to the indefatigable activity and intelligence of George Bentinck, who played the part of both attorney and policeman in hunting out and getting up the evidence. . . . .

The whole circumstances from the beginning to the end are very curious, and it has been equally interesting and amusing to all concerned in it. We have all worked hard in different ways, *palmarum qui meruit ferat*, and though there is a feud between George Bentinck and myself, and we do not speak to each other, I must acknowledge all his great services on this occasion. The Counsel on the other side made a very violent attack on him in his speech, and accused him of being party, attorney, policeman, and that he had tampered with the witnesses, clothed, fed, and paid them. . . . The Judge [Alderson] said he had only done his duty.

(*Note*.—Orlando, who got the race on the disqualification of Running

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1. Greville *Memoirs*, 1844, vol. II., p. 251.

Rein, was afterwards purchased by Mr. Greville, but he did not belong to him in 1844.)

To revert to other matters of less importance, the Chester Cup, then known as the Tradesmen's Plate, this year received ninety-four entries, the weights for which were published so long in advance as in the *Racing Calendar* of the previous year, and ranged between the famous mare Alice Hawthorn, 6 years, handicapped at 9st. 8lb., and the Duke of Richmond's Red Deer, 3 years, 4st. Twenty-six came to the post, Red Deer, ridden by Kitchener, winning by five lengths from the top-weight Alice Hawthorn (Heseltine). This was the first time the race was won by a three-year-old, and according to John Kent, the trainer of the winner, the weight of Red Deer's diminutive rider was only 3st. 4lb. The following season the race attracted no less than a hundred and forty-two subscribers, the weights for which were again allotted the previous season.

At Newmarket, at the First October Meeting, the *Calendar* records that Mr. Langridge's Discretion, 3 years, beat Mr. E. Walker's black cab horse (half-bred), 6 years, Two Middle Miles, for £150, the latter received 14lb., but was beaten six lengths. Discretion had already won four other races this season.

**1845.** Though it did not become the general practice till a year later, the names of all the jockeys riding in a race are given at the principal meetings for the first time in this *Calendar*. Hitherto only the winning jockey had his name recorded, a most singular fact, and even that only from 1823, previous to which the names of the riders had never been given.

For a period of nearly two hundred years, many of the races at Newmarket had been confined to gentleman jockeys, though in a considerably less degree during the progress of this century. It was now enacted: "That no races for "Gentlemen riders be allowed at Newmarket during the regular



“ Meetings, without the sanction of the Stewards, and that, “ in the event of such sanction being obtained, these races “ be the first or last of the day.”

At a Meeting of the Jockey Club, it was decided :—

That the unanimous thanks of the Jockey Club be rendered to his Grace the Duke of Richmond, K.G., for his Grace’s indefatigable exertions and eminent services in the House of Lords, whereby many obsolete statutes, which threatened destruction to the best interests of the Turf, have been repealed, and the remaining laws in regard to horse racing put upon a safe and satisfactory footing.

A similar resolution was passed in favour of Lord Palmerston, and his Lordship be requested to become an honorary Member of the Jockey Club.

An Act, the 9th of Queen Anne, well-known from its opening words of “ *Qui tam*,” was the one which constituted the greatest menace to the Turf, as it provided that any amount in excess of Ten Pounds, which was won or lost by betting, could be sued for and recovered, together with treble the amount so won or lost, at the suit of a common informer.

No less than thirty-four such actions were taken out this year by one of the name of Russell, and at his instance writs were served upon Lord George Bentinck, Colonel Peel, and many other of the principal supporters of the Turf, for contravention of this old statute. It was stated in the House of Lords, by Lord Brougham, that the penalty sought to be recovered under these thirty-four writs amounted to nearly half a million of money.

Only one of these actions was brought into Court, and was tried at the Guildford Assizes, Russell seeking to recover the sum of £12,000 from Lord George Bentinck, respecting a bet of £3,000 his Lordship was reported to have made, together with treble the value thereof, but through a legal technicality the plaintiff lost his case, and before his other similar actions could be heard, the law had been altered, in order to defeat his machinations.

To render such vexatious actions impossible for the future, the Duke of Richmond forthwith introduced the "Manly Sports Bill" into the House of Lords, by which the abnoxious statute of Queen Anne was repealed and its penalties abolished.

Reference is occasionally made in various old *Calendars* as to the favourites for certain races having been poisoned, or otherwise prevented from winning, by acts of villainy, and this year the Stewards of the Jockey Club were asked to investigate a serious charge brought by Mr. Gully, "against Mr. J. F. Bloodsworth and William Stebbings, in conjunction with William Day, of having conspired to bet against Old England [Mr. Gully's horse] for the Derby, and subsequently to lame, or by other means prevent the said horse running for that race." Stebbings, it was stated, recommended that the horse's foot should be bruised with a large stone, or that his leg should be injured by striking it with a stick, after a handkerchief had been wound round it, or that the horse should be poisoned.

In the end, the charge was proved, and all three offenders warned off the Turf.

A hitherto unpublished letter from Mr. Gully reads as follows :—

1845. June 9th. OSBORNE'S HOTEL, ADELPHI.

"I have no doubt you would read an account of the disgusting and cruel conspiracy formed, not only to prevent me having a chance for that great race [the Derby], but to lame or destroy one horse, if not both. Yes, my firm belief is that both my horses was done something to; time will tell, and I do think time will shew that what I now say to be too true.

"However, I have, I trust, done some good by getting into the nest of these villains. These fellows have been five years seducing this young man, and at last they got him quite in their power, so much so, that he obey'd their commands to rob his own father, and if I had not discovered what they was doing, his father, poor man, would have been ruined, and also his brother, both of which, I do believe, are truly honest and faithful servants.

"I hope you will excuse my not writing you before, but my time has

been so much taken up with this black affair, that I could not write to anybody.

"I was at Danebury on Friday: both your horses are looking well, and train well. The colts is greatly improved, and they seem to me to be getting forward in racing condition."

Further, the Stewards were requested to enquire into a charge preferred against Mr. Crommelin, of having offered John Day, junr., a large bribe to procure the defeat of the Melody colt, the property of Mr. Etwall, M.P. for Andover, in the Derby of 1840.

Mr. Crommelin, who had previously been implicated in the Ratan affair already mentioned, was a leading member of Tattersall's, and thus the case attracted considerable attention. As the matter in question had occurred five years earlier, the Stewards considered it unnecessary to take further steps, other than to express their opinion that the intimacy between Mr. Crommelin and the Days was discreditable, but as John Day, junr., had given false evidence before them, they warned him off Newmarket Heath, which was the extent of their jurisdiction at this period.

Another of Mr. Gully's unpublished private letters, so vigorous and characteristic of the writer, is appended, and makes one regret that more of the same kind of information is not available, or many interesting details of the inner history of the Turf would be at one's disposal. The reference to "falls" in the letter is explained by the circumstance that Mr. Gully had for many years hunted with "The Squire" (Osbaldeston) in the shires, and his correspondent had been a well-known Master of Foxhounds in Yorkshire.

1845, June 14th. OSBORNE'S HOTEL, ADELPHI.

"My Dear Sir,

"Believe me I was delighted to have a few lines from you, the more so as I find you approve of my late conduct in exposing those wretches.<sup>1</sup> There is now an enquiry going on respecting a Mr. Cromlin, who offered

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1 J. F. Bloodsworth, William Stebbings, and William Day, see *Racing Calendar*, 1845, p. liii.

John Day, jr., a bribe to pull up Mr. Etwall's horse [out of] Melody in the year 1840. I have no doubt whatever but he did, but I fear there is some difficulty in proving the fact, altho' he told his father the next morning, and Mr. Etwall as soon as he saw him, which was only three of four days after he was offered the bribe of £1,000, and £500 more if Lancelot won.

"I have borne all my fatigue pretty well, and I hope to get home Tuesday week to have a few days quiet. I am sorry to hear you have been so poorly, but, my dear Sir, you must not funk it; if you do, you will be miserable. You make me laugh when I look at your letter, when you speak of your *next journey to London*. I will give you forty years more before anything of that sort takes place, why, I have had more falls than you a great deal, and some dam'd *hard ones too*, but I must beg to Postpone the travelling feet foremost for some time yet.

"I shall come back to Goodwood. Shall you be in London then? If not, I will, if possible, come and see you. The cash arrived safe, and I have little doubt but I should have won the Derby provided my horses had fair play.

"I am, My Dear Sir, Yours faithfully,

"JNO. GULLY."

It should be mentioned that Mr. Gully's horse Old England finished third for the Derby of this year, and that his other runner, Weatherbit, was unplaced; the following year, however, he made amends for his disappointment, by winning both the Derby with Pyrrhus the First, Old England's half-brother, and also the Oaks with Mendicant.

**1846.** Several noticeable improvements will be found in the *Calendar* for this year. "Races to Come," which from the earliest times had been included in the *Racing Calendar*, were from henceforth published as a separate volume.

For the past four years, the report of each race stated by how far it had been won, but with the exception of a very few races the previous year, the distance between the placed horses had not been given until the present volume, an omission which would now appear to us inexplicable.

A further very useful addition was a list of "Thoroughbred Foals under their Sires," which, with the single exception of

1849, when for some reason it was omitted, was continued each year up to 1893, when the information was supplied separately in the form of the first *Annual Supplement to the General Stud Book*, in which the foals were returned, but under their dams only. In 1894, however, the old system was reverted to, and the *Supplement* in every subsequent year up to 1920 has given the foals in two lists, under both their sires and dams.

In this *Racing Calendar* for 1846, returns are made of 1,311 thoroughbred mares, thus :—

|                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 485 produced colts.   | 35 cast their foals. |
| 461 produced fillies. | 330 were barren.     |

It will be understood that this list was necessarily incomplete, and does not embrace all the thoroughbred mares at the stud at this date.

The index at last was greatly improved, and the horses appeared in proper alphabetical order, short pedigrees being given of most of the runners, both English and Irish.

Until the index was thus amended, it had been practically impossible to ascertain the pedigree of any horse unless he had actually won, in which case the name of his sire, and possibly, but by no means certainly, of his dam, would be stated in the report of the race, so for a period of about a hundred and twenty years, the only way of arriving at the breeding of any particular horse, was to make a laborious search through the whole of his performances—having first ascertained under whose name he appeared in the index—and in the end he might possibly not have been a winner at all (“brackets” to indicate winning performances not having been added till a later date), in which case the search would prove unavailing, and by no other means could the information be obtained from the *Racing Calendar*.

The First Spring Meeting at Newmarket this year was remarkable for the last appearance of “The Squire” (Mr. George Osbaldeston) as a jockey, other than in races confined to gentleman riders. Although fifty-nine years of age, he



rode his own horse, King Charles, in the Two Thousand Guineas, having finished second in the previous race, the Queen's Plate of one thousand guineas, to Nat Flatman, on Lord George Bentinck's famous Miss Elis. In the former race the Starter reported that W. Scott and F. Butler were fifteen minutes, and Mr. Osbaldeston twenty minutes late at the post, a fact which was ordered by the Stewards to be published in the *Calendar*, with a caution to riders to be more punctual in future.

The weather greatly interfered with racing at the Houghton Meeting, and the *Calendar* states :—

During the first three days of the Meeting there was a severe fog on the Heath. On Monday men were stationed at intervals on the Course to guide the jockeys, and afterwards the line of the Course was tracked with tan and sawdust. Thursday and Friday were fine, but the fog returned on Saturday, though in a less degree.

**1847.** From having given no description whatever of the races, the *Calendar* now went to the other extreme, and at Newmarket, and a few important meetings elsewhere, the accounts were couched in somewhat flowery language, both in this, and occasionally in the two preceding years ; the style approximating that of a professional racing reporter of modern days, but such verbiage was dropped after this season, and the *Calendar* henceforth only supplied the bare return of the race as given by the Judge, merely stating the distances between the placed horses.

Amongst the starters for the Goodwood Cup<sup>1</sup> this year was an Arab, named Monarch, but the descriptive report in the *Calendar* states " he was quite defeated a mile and a half "from home." Though an aged horse, he carried 28lb. less than the lowest weighted of the other eight runners, and 4st. 2lb. less than the winner.

**1848.** Owing to the unusually late period at which Easter fell, the Newmarket Craven Meeting was held a fortnight before, namely, on Monday, 10th April. This was

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1. page 124.

the first instance of the Craven Meeting commencing before Easter since 1785, when the Jockey Club ordered that the three Spring Meetings should in future begin : the Craven on Easter Monday, the First Spring on that day fortnight, and the Second Spring on that day month.

By a resolution passed in 1814 this arrangement was so far altered as to postpone the Craven Meeting till the second Monday in April, in the event of Easter falling in March, and since 1833 the Second Spring Meeting has commenced on a Tuesday.

From time immemorial it had been the custom to require the winner of certain important races to make presents to the Starter or Judge, or occasionally wine to the Race Committee. This practice had gradually become an abuse, and Clerks of Courses were accustomed to make deductions from the stakes, under various pretexts, from most of the winners. For very many years it had been a condition that the winner of both the Derby and Oaks should each be obliged to give £100 towards the cost of providing extra police for the Epsom Meeting, and in several such ways owners were mulcted of a portion of the stakes. The Jockey Club now became aware that such practices could not be defended, and were, in fact, open to grave objection, so accordingly issued the following notice on the subject :—

The Jockey Club having learned that it has been an ancient practice for winners of the great stakes to make presents to the Judge, are of opinion that such practice is, in principle, objectional, and that hereafter a fixed sum should be paid out of certain large stakes, in lieu thereof, and that the Judge should be precluded from receiving any presents whatever from winners of races.

Resolved.—That the winner of the 2,000gs. Stakes shall pay 10 sov. to the Judge, of the Cesarewitch, and Cambridgeshire Stakes, 30 sov. each, of the Derby at Epsom, 50 sov., and of the Oaks, 30 sov., in addition to his salary for judging other races at Epsom and Newmarket.

Resolved.—That it is recommended to the Stewards of Doncaster and other places where very large prizes are run for, to adopt the same principle in remunerating the Judge.

This Resolution appears to be somewhat of a distinction without a difference, the only change being that for the future, instead of the amount of the present being left to the generosity of the winner, it was fixed at a specified sum, by the Stewards themselves, according to the importance of the race. But it is obvious, though the amount paid was supposed to be limited by this new Rule, the objectionable features of the practice were retained.

The custom, however, was tolerated until 1866, when it was resolved that payment to the Judge should be made by the Jockey Club or Race Meeting only, and that there should be no condition in future requiring a winner to pay any sum to a race fund towards the expenses of the Meeting.

**1849.** Mr. C. C. Greville communicated to the Members of the Jockey Club a challenge from the Pasha of Egypt to test the relative merits of the Arab and the English horses, by a race to be run in Egypt, ten miles, without limitation to age or weight, for £10,000 a side. Mr. Greville stated that it was his intention to make the challenge public by a letter addressed to the Editor of *Bell's Life in London*, and no further proceedings were taken in the matter. A copy of this letter was published in the *Calendar*, in which Mr. Greville stated that he had informed the Pasha that he thought it very probable his challenge would be accepted.

The Stewards of the Jockey Club at this time, Sir Joseph Hawley, Lord Stanley, and Lord Glasgow, threw cold water, however, on the proposed contest, and in their reply to Mr. Greville, through whom the offer had been made, wrote :—

The ground proposed is wholly unfit for a trial of speed, and the probabilities of accident appear so great, as to make it objectionable even as a test of stoutness. On these grounds, therefore, we are not disposed to recommend the acceptance of the challenge on the part of the Jockey Club.

It is somewhat surprising that so prominent a racing man as Mr. Greville should have countenanced a return to such a

barbarous practice as a race over ten miles of ground, described moreover, as both sandy and full of stones, and quite unsuitable for the proposed trial, as was pointed out by the Stewards.

The Derby of this year was remarkable for the narrow victory of The Flying Dutchman, who only beat the "h.-b." Hotspur by half a length in a field of twenty-six runners, and is the first of the three occasions on which "half-bred" horses have been second for this race, The Marlborough Buck having been second of thirty-three in Teddington's year (1851), and Curzon in the race won by Sir Visto in 1895. The "h.-b." filly Scent also ran second for the Oaks of 1859, she being by Windhound, out of the dam of Marlborough Buck.

The most uneventful meeting ever held under the Rules of Racing took place at Kelso in September this year. The races here had been discontinued, but as a Produce Stake, which had closed four years previously, still remained to be decided, the Duke of Roxburghe, owner of the racecourse, gave permission for it to be run there as usual. This was the only event on the programme, and as of the ten subscribers only Lord Eglinton's Elthron came to the post, the race resulted in a walk-over.

**1850.** The Index of Horses under their Owners, which had appeared in every *Calendar*, was henceforth abandoned, and the English and Irish runners were no longer shewn separately, the latter being now also included in the supplementary list of Winning Horses under their sires.

It was resolved that any horse running for a selling stake or plate shall be liable to be claimed by the owner of any other horse in the race, for the price for which he is entered to be sold, plus the amount of the stake; the owner of the second horse being first entitled to claim.

Thus a selling race might with greater propriety have been termed a claiming race, as the Rule did not permit of the winner being sold by auction to the highest bidder, but only

that he might be claimed by the owners of other horses in the race, the second having prior claim.

The question of the proper procedure to be followed in Selling races was a source of continual difficulty to the Stewards of the Jockey Club at this date. As above stated, though the principle of claiming the winner "if demanded, etc.," had been in force from all time, yet he had never yet been allowed to be sold by auction, and the fact of his changing hands merely depended upon whether, or no, anyone running a horse in the race desired to exercise his right of claim.

In 1866 for the first time this Rule was amended, and the Stewards permitted the winner to be put up by auction, and further resolved that the owner of the second horse should be entitled to one-half the surplus (if any) realised. After 1869, however, this Rule was repealed, and it was again expressly forbidden to offer the winner by auction, but in 1871 it was once more decided to revert to a public sale after the race, and should the second horse at any country meeting not be paid any surplus due to him, the winner of the race suffered disqualification.

Selling races have, however, the sanction of antiquity,<sup>1</sup> and have for ages played an indispensable, if not an exalted part, in the conduct of race meetings. So long ago as 1689<sup>2</sup> we find Edward Chute (brother to Chaloner Chute, Speaker of the House of Commons) writing to Mr. Morrell at Belvoir Castle regarding the conditions of the Basingstoke Plate, and rather hinting he should like the Earl of Rutland to enter a horse. In describing the conditions of the race he stated it was worth between 30*l.* and 40*l.*, "together with the common "restrictions laid on all our horses considered, as that the horse "must not have run for the value of 10*l.* before, and must be "sold—if winner—to him that throwes most at three throwes "with two dice for 40 guinnies." This is probably the very

1. At Woodstock Races in 1699, it was a condition that "the winning Horse to be at the refusal of the second horse for £15," an early instance of the right of the owner of the second receiving recognition.

2. Duke of Rutland's MSS., vol. ii., p. 128.



earliest mention of a selling race; the owner of the second apparently got no advantage, but we take it only those who had a horse in the race were eligible to "throwe."

Further, that in future a "feather-weight" be considered 4st., and the usual declaration made when the jockey intended to carry more than that weight. In later years "feathers" were fixed at 5st., and afterwards 5st. 7lb., till finally abolished in 1876, when it was settled that henceforth no horse should carry a less weight than 5st. 7lb. in any plate or sweepstakes.

This rule was passed to make impossible such a case as occurred at the Newmarket Houghton Meeting in 1841, when Lord George Bentinck's Tripoli, 2 years, ran in the Plate over the last three miles of the Beacon Course, ostensibly carrying "a feather," as provided by the conditions of the race: "Two years, a feather; Three years, 7st. 5lb.; Four years, 8st. 9lb.; Five years, 9st. 3lb.; Six and aged, 9st. 7lb." It was subsequently discovered that Lord George's horse had carried 7st. 10lb., and henceforth "feathers" were required to pass the scales, like other jockeys.

**1851.** Pond's rather quaint definition of a handicap,<sup>1</sup> which had stood its ground among the Rules of Racing for precisely a hundred years, now underwent a slight, and apparently unauthorised change, for though it still read that those desirous of promoting a handicap match were "to put their hands into their pockets, and draw them out closed," etc., the allusion to the "hat" in the three final words was now dropped, as being too primitive for modern times.

The Rule now in force, if more explicit, sounds somewhat prosaic by comparison, merely stating:—

A "handicap" is a race in which the weights to be carried by the horses are adjusted by the handicapper for the purpose of equalising their chances of winning.

The last of the great Matches was run at the York Spring Meeting:—

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1. page 175.

Ld Eglington's br. h. The Flying Dutchman, by Bay Middleton, 5 yrs 8st. 8½lb. (Marlow), beat Ld Zetland's br. c. Voltigeur, 4 yrs, 8st (Flatman), 2 miles over the Old Course, 1,000 sovs. h.ft. Even betting. Won by a length.

It will be remembered that this Match was the outcome of the Doncaster Cup the previous season, when Voltigeur, 7st. 7lb., beat The Flying Dutchman, 8st. 12lb., by half a length, the only defeat he sustained during his four seasons on the Turf, having won all his remaining fifteen races.

His weight being calculated to half a pound, was reminiscent of the old days of Give-and-Take Plates, when ounces were not disregarded at the scales.

It is worthy of remark that these great rivals, Flying Dutchman and Voltigeur, achieved lasting fame in unison by becoming the two grandsires of Galopin, and thus have mutually exerted an influence on the present-day racehorse that can scarcely be estimated.

This year the Doncaster Cup was the subject of an objection, it being stated that Sir Joseph Hawley had run two horses in the race, contrary to the established rule (40) which read :—

That no person can enter and run, either in his own name or in the name of any other person, two horses of which he is wholly or in part the owner, for any plate.

The Stewards decided that Sir Joseph had *bona fide* sold one of his horses before the race, and consequently that his horse, The Ban, was entitled to the Cup, although they considered the Doncaster Stewards committed an error in allowing this horse to run at all, he having been entered in Sir Joseph Hawley's name.

It is remarkable that Sir Joseph should, in the first instance, have entered two horses in the race, for he can scarcely have overlooked the existence of the above rule, which had obtained almost from the beginning of turf history, and had even been incorporated in the Act of Parliament (1740) regulating the conduct of racing. So far back as 1733, we have already seen that a supposed breach of the rule had led to a riot, and so

much comment was occasioned by the incident at Doncaster, that Sir Joseph temporarily retired from the Turf.

**1855.** At the Newmarket Second Spring Meeting, held on May 8th, "in consequence of the long continuance of dry weather, the Three-year-old Plate, which had been run on the Rowley Mile since it was first established in 1779, was moved to the Bunbury Mile, and the other races, not previously closed and fixed to be run on the Flat, were also run on part of Round Course."

In the Sweepstakes of 10 sov. each, run at the Houghton Meeting, four of the five runners dead-heated, the respective distances between them in the deciding heat being a head and two half-lengths.

In the Index to the *Calendar* this year, the references to races won first appeared in parentheses, or "brackets," as they are now familiarly termed. This innovation, though of the greatest practical utility, cannot, however, be claimed as original, it having been adopted in *Ruff's Guide to the Turf* eight years earlier. At first sight the improvement might appear but a trivial one, but it is not easy to over-rate its convenience.

For example, if the entry of Angelo in the volume for the previous year be referred to, one is confronted with the labour of looking out his thirty-one references, before it is possible to arrive at his seven winning performances.

The compilers of the *Racing Calendar* resisted till as recently as 1923 the convenient system of indicating by a figure following the references in the Index the placings of the runners, though such information was of manifest utility, and had long been employed in the various "unofficial" Turf Guides.

It was only twenty years earlier that the custom of over a century had been departed from, and the full sum won in stakes by each individual horse shewn in the Winning List, hitherto only the several values of the various races being stated. Moreover, not even to the present day will the

compilers consent to add up the total sum won by the produce of each stallion in the list of Winning Sires, but prefer that everyone should perfect themselves in the art of addition.

**1856.** The practice of running yearlings, which had been in disuse for sixty-five years, was now revived at the Shrewsbury November Meeting, when the Yearling Stakes, run over a quarter of a mile, obtained ten subscribers, and was won by a filly of Lord Anglesey's. For the three following years the race was known as the Anglesey Stakes, and was won on the last occasion by Little Lady, a daughter of Orlando. That early racing did not prejudice her after career is evidenced by the fact that she won eight of her seventeen races as a two-year-old, four of her eight starts at three years, two races at four years, and one at five years, and subsequently became the dam of a classic winner in Camballo.

It is true that at the Catterick Bridge Meeting in 1825 there was a race called the "Yearling Stakes," and also the Richmond Club Stakes "for yearlings," but it is obvious that these races were in reality for two-year-olds, being run in the month of April, and the titles were misleading, and altered shortly afterwards.

After 1859 a Rule was passed forbidding yearlings to run for public stakes, and disqualifying from henceforth any horse who should at that age run in any private Match or Sweepstakes.

**1857.** The historical letter from the Earl of Derby on the subject of debarring undesirable persons from participating in racing was read at the annual meeting of the Jockey Club, and it was unanimously agreed that the resolution contained in his lordship's letter be adopted, and that it be published with the minutes of this meeting :—

1857, June 30th. ST. JAMES' SQUARE.

"My Lords,

"It has become a subject of general observation and regret that the number of men of station and fortune who support the Turf is gradually

diminishing, and that an increasing proportion of horses in training is in the hands of persons in an inferior position, who keep them, not for the purpose of sport, but as mere instruments of gambling.

"I am aware that it is not in your lordship's power to apply a remedy to this acknowledged evil, but I conceive that there are occasions in which it is within your power, and if so, I venture to think that it is your duty, as Stewards of the Jockey Club, to exercise a wholesome influence upon the character and respectability of the Turf.

"You cannot debar any man, whatever his position in society, from keeping racehorses; nor do I recommend a vexatious and inquisitorial scrutiny into the character and conduct of those who do so; but when among their number are found those against whom flagrant cases of disgraceful fraud, and dishonesty, have been legally established, it appears to me clearly within your province to stamp them with your reprobation, and to exclude them from association, on an equal footing, with the more honourable supporters of the Turf.

"Such a case for your intervention has, I think, arisen out of the late trial of *Sidebottom v. Adkins*, in which a sum of above 6,000*l.* has been recovered from the defendant on the avowed ground that it had been won by cheating with loaded dice. I cannot but think that this is a case which it concerns the honour of the Jockey Club not to pass over in silence, and it would afford me great satisfaction to learn that you had taken it up in your official capacity; but in the event of your declining to do so, I have to request that you will lay this letter before the Jockey Club at their next meeting.

"As I am doubtful whether I may be able to attend the July Meeting, and certain that I cannot do so on Wednesday, I will thank you to give notice, on my behalf, of the following resolution:—

"That the Jockey Club having taken into their consideration the facts proved in evidence in the late case of *Sidebottom v. Adkins*, direct that Mr. Adkins be warned off the Heath at Newmarket, and that no horses of which he may be in whole, or in part, owner, be allowed to run on any ground over which the Jockey Club exercise jurisdiction."

"I have the honour to be, my Lords,

"Your obedient servant,

(Signed) "DERBY."

"To the Stewards of the Jockey Club."

The Cesarewitch this year, for which thirty-four horses started, resulted in a dead heat between Pryoress, El Hakim, and Queen Bess, and whereas the two former, both of whom carried 6st. 9lb. changed to other jockeys for the deciding



heat, Queen Bess, weighted at 4st. 10lb., was ridden each time by Grimshaw, who, however, was beaten into third place in the run off, and in view of his pluck deserved a better fate.

A unique distinction was afforded a particular animal running at this period for which we have been unable to assign a reason. Throughout both *Stud Book* and *Calendar* the name of Lord Portsmouth's filly "My Niece" (1855), by Cowl out of Vanity, is invariably placed in inverted commas, whether in text or index, a peculiarity which applies to no other animal in either work. It was not confined to "My Niece" during her Turf career only, but extended to the next generation, as in the entries of all her earlier produce, in the index to the *Calendars*, their dam appears as "My Niece," with the commas duly appended. This mare, the first race-horse ever owned by the present Lord Coventry, subsequently became the dam of a horse of some note in The Drummer, winner of the Great Metropolitan, and third in the Derby.

**1858.** In order to cope with the ever-changing conditions of the Turf, so pointedly alluded to by Lord Derby in his letter on the subject, the existing Rules being found inadequate to present circumstances, the Stewards had appointed a Committee to revise, and entirely recast, the Rules concerning Horse Racing in General, and also the Rules and Orders of the Jockey Club, and the amended regulations came into force this year. Those Concerning Horse Racing in General governed all meetings that were subject to the established Rules of Racing, but the Orders of the Jockey Club applied to Newmarket only.

Pond's old Rules, which with slight alteration and addition had sufficed for one hundred and seven years, were now entirely superseded by a new code of sixty-six Rules, which were at that time thought to be sufficiently comprehensive to deal with any situation that might arise, but it will be seen they only lasted about ten years, so rapid were the expansion of Turf matters.

It was now enacted that all racehorses should take their ages from the 1st of January, thus disposing of the old custom of having one date for Newmarket, and another for those meetings not held under Newmarket Rules, the inconvenience of which method has been already noticed.

**1860.** This year an attempt was made to interfere with the conduct of racing by Act of Parliament, seeking to make it obligatory that no horse should run carrying less than a specified minimum weight of 7st. This was, in a measure, a reversion to the statute of 1740, which likewise had settled weights for horses of various ages, more or less in accordance with the custom then prevailing, but which Act had been repealed five years later. At that time the Jockey Club had not been founded, but now the sport having for so long been conducted under such proper and unquestioned authority, a determined stand could be made against any intervention. Consequently at a General Meeting of the Jockey Club held at Newmarket, it was resolved :—

That the Jockey Club deprecate the interference of the legislator in fixing the weights to be carried by racehorses, and that a Petition be presented by the Jockey Club to the House of Lords, praying their Lordships not to pass a Bill entitled ‘An Act to prevent the entering or running horses carrying very light weights.’

Accordingly the following Petition was presented to the House of Lords by Lord Derby on the second reading of the Bill :—

That your Petitioners have been informed that a Bill has been introduced into your Right Honourable House, providing, under severe penalties, that from and after the first day of January, 1861, no horse, mare, or gelding shall be entered or run for any race, carrying less than seven stone weight.

That your Petitioners submit that all regulations respecting racing are better entrusted to the authority which has hitherto made Rules for the encouragement of this great national amusement, and that the proposed Bill, should it become law, would have a prejudicial effect.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Lordships will be pleased to refuse your assent to the second reading of the Bill

entitled "An Act to prevent the entering or running horses carrying very light weights for any plate or money."

After a debate the Bill was withdrawn.

Adverting to the regulation passed in 1848 requiring winners of certain great races to present specified sums to the Judge, it was now resolved :—

That if it can be proved against any person that he has offered money before or after a race to any Judge, Starter, or Handicapper, or promised any part of the stake or prize, or any share or part of a bet, he shall be warned off the Course at Newmarket, and other places where the Jockey Club Rules are in force ; and any Judge, Starter, or Handicapper who shall before or after a race demand or receive money of any person, shall be warned off.

But the Rule was still retained ordering the winner of the five particular great races before mentioned to pay stated sums to the Judge, as heretofore, which appears to be somewhat of a contradiction, and as has been already stated, this practice was enjoined till 1866, when all such payments were forbidden for the future.

At Ascot this year, Mr. Charles Peck won the Visitors' Plate, Count Batthyany running second to him in a field of twelve. The Count objected to Mr. Peck's mare on the ground of a cross, which was over-ruled. A further objection to her was then lodged that the jockey dismounted before arriving at the proper place, which was likewise dismissed, but a third objection being made that Mr. Peck had run two horses in the Plate<sup>1</sup> proved fatal, and the Count got the race.

**1862.** It was expressly stated that the Starter was prohibited from making a running start ; the horses must walk up, and be started from a walk.

An incident which attracted a considerable amount of comment at the time occurred this year, when Mr. Willes, the well-known racing correspondent ("Argus") of the *Morning Post*, was considered to have pre-judged in that newspaper, in an offensive manner, what was known far and wide as the "Tarragona case," and was in consequence

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1. page 222.

required to make an apology to the Jockey Club, its character being thus impugned.

Mr. Willes having, however, refused to apologise, he was, but by a no means unanimous vote, warned off the lands and property of the Jockey Club at Newmarket, the Stewards having succeeded in their action in the High Court of Justice, and this notice was not withdrawn till 1869, seven years afterwards.

It may be interesting to recall that so far back as 1827, the Jockey Club had established their legal right to warn objectionable persons off the lands in their ownership or tenancy. In that year a Mr. Hawkins had insulted Lord Wharncliffe, one of the then Stewards, on the course, conceiving himself to have been ill-used by a decision of the Club in the matter of a disputed bet, and accused the Stewards of "unparalleled and unexampled oppression, proceeding from a powerful body, having for its object the extermination of the character of an individual who has dared to offend them."

Mr. Hawkins was forthwith arrested, at the suit of Lord Wharncliffe, for a breach of the peace, and was ordered to find bail in the sum of £1,000 for himself, and each of two sureties, £3,000 in all. As Mr. Hawkins, however, persisted in going on the Course, the Duke of Portland as owner of the land, at the instigation of the Jockey Club, brought an action against him for trespass, at the Cambridge Assizes. It having been testified by many witnesses that the Course had been in the occupation of the Jockey Club since 1753, the Jury returned a nominal verdict of one shilling in favour of the Duke, which thus established the right of the Club to warn persons off the ground in their ownership or tenancy.

**1863.** The Cambridgeshire this season was remarkable in that the rider of Catch 'em Alive, winner of the race, was unable to draw his correct weight on returning to scale. He was given a whip to assist him in drawing the weight, but the Stewards decided that as he had not brought

a whip to scale he could not afterwards weigh with one. It was eventually found the scales had been tampered with, and that some lead had been fastened to the bottom of the weight-scale, on which the Stewards were satisfied that the jockey would have drawn his proper weight, and he was accordingly duly passed.

A reward of £50 was offered by the Jockey Club for such information as should lead to the detection of the person who had fastened the lead to the scales, but the culprit was not discovered.

A singular occurrence at Ascot this year created a good deal of discussion and feeling. It appeared that Baron Rothschild had entered both Tomato and Hippolyta for the Fernhill Stakes, which the former ultimately won. Both fillies had run the previous day, Tomato being third for a Biennial, and Hippolyta had finished unplaced in her race.

The official report in the *Calendar* states:—

For this race [Fernhill Stakes] Baron Rothschild's jockey weighed late, and Hippolyta's number was put up instead of Tomato's. Mr. W. Bevell objected to the winner receiving the stakes on that ground, and the following decision was given on Thursday: "Tomato is the winner of the stakes, but the Stewards fine Baron Rothschild's trainer 25 sov. for not weighing at the proper time, and for neglecting to observe that the wrong number was up. No blame attaches to Mr. Manning, the Clerk of the Scales."

(Signed)

BESSBOROUGH; COVENTRY; H. J. ROUS; C. ALEXANDER,

Stewards.

**1864.** No returns of foreign races had been included in the *Calendar* since 1776, when certain races in France, at Sablon and Fontainebleau, were reported, and 1792, when particulars of three races at Moscow were given. This year Continental Races were first included, but only the actual names of the runners were shewn in the Index to this section, nor have their pedigrees ever been given down to the year 1914, after which all foreign reports were discontinued.



To emphasise the inconvenience of this omission, a curious error may be cited in the volume for 1905,<sup>1</sup> in connection with Mr. James de Rothschild's Beppo, to whose references in the general index is appended "see also Continental racing," and a Beppo duly appears amongst the French runners, so at first sight the entry seems to be in order. But as a matter of fact, this French Beppo was an entirely different animal, and had his pedigree been given, the confusion could not have arisen.

These results of foreign races were continued regularly up to the time of the Great War (1914), which necessarily brought them to an end for its duration, but it is a matter of regret that their publication was not resumed in 1919, or since.

This year the Heath Tax was raised to two guineas, it having been first imposed in 1819, and had remained at one guinea from that date until this year.

**1865.** The Grand National Steeplechase Rules were included in the *Calendar* for the last time. In the winter of 1866-7 the records of this branch of the sport were published in a separate volume, which was issued annually for the future.

Admiral Rous was re-elected Steward of the Jockey Club, and became a permanent holder of that office till his death in 1877.

At Huntingdon this year the race for the Stakes was won by a horse called Claxton, late the property of Lord St. Vincent, who had ten days previously sold him, and scratched him for this very race. Notwithstanding he was run by Edwin Parr, with full knowledge of the facts of the case, and won. The Stewards decided, contrary to authority, that bets should go to the backers of Claxton, though subsequently the second got the race, as of course, the horse who came in first was not eligible to start.

The Jockey Club expressed its appreciation of the liberality

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1. Corrected in the Errata to the *Calendar* of 1906.

of Mr. William Blenkiron, who, with a view to encouraging the breeding of thoroughbred horses, had handed them the sum of £1,000 to be run for by two-year-olds the following season. Out of compliment to the donor, who then owned the famous Middle Park Stud, near Eltham, the race so endowed was named the Middle Park Plate, and was first run for at the Second October Meeting at Newmarket in 1866, being won by The Rake. The Plate was a sweepstakes of 30 sov. each, 20 ft., which, with the added £1,000, made it by far the most important two-year-old race of the time, its value that year being £4,840, which has never since been equalled.

Mr. Blenkiron continued his donation for the three following seasons, after which period the Jockey Club themselves subscribed £500 towards the race for the next five years; but in 1875 it had again to be augmented from outside sources, the added money, amounting to "£430 3s. 1d., being the sum of 1 per cent. given by certain breeders, on the amount realized by the sale of their yearlings of 1874"; and the net value of the race was returned in the *Calendar* as £3,430 3s. 1d.

At the General Meeting of the Jockey Club held during the week the race was run :

The Stewards announced that they intended sending a letter of thanks to those of the breeders who had contributed the added money to the Middle Park Plate this year; but, now that the funds of the Club admitted of it, they proposed to renew the race for next year, giving £500 added money.

The same season, 1875, saw the inauguration of "the Dewhurst Plate, a piece of plate of 300 sov. value, given by T. Gee, Esq.," added to a Sweepstakes of 25 sovs., 15 ft., bringing the value of the race to £1,605. Mr. Gee (proprietor of the Dewhurst Stud) continued the gift for the next two years, after which the same sum was given in specie by the Jockey Club.

It will thus be seen that the two principal two-year-old races held in the Autumn were originated in identical manner,

from private benefactions of two well-known breeders, the races being named after their respective studs as a mark of appreciation by the authorities.

1866. Hurdle races appeared in the *Racing Calendar* for the last time, they henceforth being included in the newly-issued *Steeplechase Calendar*, and the winners of such races were no longer to be subject to penalties when running on the flat.

In the returns of Races Past, the net value of each race to the winner was now shewn in the *Calendar*, which hitherto could only be ascertained by calculation, or a reference to the List of Winning Horses, and which possibly might not be correct for the purposes of penalties and allowances.

For the past thirty years a Selling race with the extraordinary title of "The Derby and Oaks Stakes" had been run at Epsom, usually immediately after the race for the Oaks. It is singular that a plate with such a misleading name should have been permitted for so long a period, and it is a matter of congratulation that it terminated this year.

A Match was arranged to be run at the Newmarket Second October Meeting between Mr. Caledon Alexander's Robin Hood by Wild Dayrell, and Baron Rothschild's Robin Hood by North Lincoln, both three years old, and owing to the confusion that had been caused throughout the season by there being two horses of the same name, it was part of the condition of the race, though not so stated in the *Calendar*, that the loser should relinquish his name in favour of the winner. Baron Rothschild paid forfeit (£100), and in accordance, his horse was renamed Robin.

At the Leamington and Warwickshire Races in November this year an objection was lodged against Mr. R. Ten Broeck's Soiled Dove, the winner of a handicap at the meeting, on the ground that she was a three-year-old, and not a two-year-old, which she purported to be. The *Racing Calendar* states that "the case was referred to the

“Stewards of the Jockey Club, and their decision will be given  
“in the Addenda, if known in time.”

Presumably the question of the filly's age had not been decided by the date the book was published, and so far as we are aware, no information as to the result of the inquiry was given in the *Calendar* of the following year, though no doubt was recorded in the *Sheet Calendar*. From another source we learn that Soiled Dove was proved to be a three-year-old, and was accordingly disqualified.

The circumstances of the case attracted considerable attention at the time, as it presented some unusual features, the filly having run in several two-year-old races throughout the season, in the names of different owners of the highest standing on the Turf, without their having the slightest suspicion that her age had been fraudulently mis-represented, and though her pedigree was admittedly a mystery, yet none of the trainers who had her under their charge, had apparently ever examined her mouth.

Soiled Dove, described as “by The Rover, dam's pedigree “unknown,” first ran at Newmarket in the Spring of 1866 in a Selling race, as the property of Mr. W. Wallace, being beaten a head by Lord Falmouth's Reigning Beauty, and was subsequently claimed by Mr. (afterwards Lord) Chaplin. At Ascot the filly again ran second, but at the (now defunct) Hampton races, she won the Hurst Stakes for Mr. Chaplin, who bought her in for 270 gs.

At the Newmarket July Meeting she beat her former conqueror Reigning Beauty, and at the First October Meeting, being now the property of Mr. Ten Broeck, she was beaten for a Sweepstakes; but won a handicap for her new owner at the Leamington Meeting, where she was objected to.

A reference to the *Calendar* of the previous year shews that a filly with this somewhat peculiar name won a Match at the Wye Meeting, but singularly enough, the age of neither runner is recorded, which is in itself such an almost unique

omission as to be suggestive, and the distance being only half-a-mile, leads one to infer that they were two-year-olds.

As a result of the investigation, an officer who had formerly commanded one of the crack cavalry regiments, and also a confederate of his, were warned off the Turf, the Stewards of the Jockey Club stating that both "were fully aware that the filly was a three years old, though they had entered and run her as a two year old."

**1867.** The Newmarket course known as the First half of the Abingdon Mile was abolished.

**1869.** The expediency of early two-year-old racing having long been a matter of opinion, at a meeting of the Jockey Club held on May 29, attended by forty-three members, Sir Joseph Hawley proposed a resolution that no two-year-old should run before 1st July. Lord George Manners, a Steward of the Club, moved an amendment that, with respect to two-year-olds only, they should revert to the old custom (which was abolished at Newmarket in 1834), and take their ages from the 1st May, and thus be unable to start for any race prior to that date, as they would be "yearlings," the racing of which had not been permitted since 1859.

Both proposals were negatived, and finally an agreement was reached that no two-year-old should run before the 1st May.

It is well-known that Admiral Rous strongly opposed this decision, and considered it a retrograde measure, pointing out that all sensible owners would continue to try their two-year-olds as early as possible, even if they were debarred from running them publicly. The Admiral further said "it was preposterous to suppose that at this date of progress we should reverse previous experience, and decline all the advantages of early maturity, in order to encourage the production of late offspring," and time has proved the soundness of his



judgment. The majority of the Jockey Club, however, held with Shakespeare that :

The colt that is backed, and burdened, being young,  
Loseth his pride, and never waxeth strong.

Accordingly for the next five years it remained in force that no two-year-old should run before the 1st May, after which period the restriction was abandoned, and two-year-olds were allowed to run at, and after, the first legitimate race meeting of the season, beginning with that of 1874.

**1870.** The Rules Concerning Horse Racing in General were reconsidered by a Committee of the Jockey Club, and numerous fresh Rules were adopted on their recommendation. Amongst the more important additions were :—

No race meeting shall commence before the week which includes the 25th March, or continue beyond the week which includes the 15th November.

No two-years-old shall run in any handicap before the 1st October, and then only with horses of the same age.

No two-years-old shall run more than six furlongs for any plate or sweepstakes.

No three-years-old or upwards, shall run a shorter distance than five furlongs for any plate or sweepstakes.

All entrances to plates, and all forfeits under 5 sov. shall be paid at the time of entry, or the nomination will not be received. . . . No forfeit of less amount than 5 sov. shall be published in the Forfeit List.

• Neither the programme, nor the result of any flat race meeting in Great Britain shall be published in the official *Racing Calendar*, unless the said Meeting is advertised to be subject to the established Rules of Racing, as settled by the Jockey Club.

The first of the above Rules was especially important in that hitherto there had been practically no close season for racehorses, the sport having been pursued uninterruptedly nearly all the year round. The Lincoln Meeting the previous season had commenced on February 16th, the Brocklesby Stakes being run that day, so racehorses had but little period of relaxation.

**1871.** In deference to the wishes of the Jockey Club, after this year, the conditions of the Champagne Stakes no longer entailed the winner of the race presenting six dozen of wine to the Doncaster Racing Club, from which obligation the race had originally derived its name, and is the sole survivor of the similar convivially-named races, the Port, Claret, Burgundy, and Dinner Stakes, which were long a feature of the fashionable meetings, and whose disappearance from the programmes occasioned the lament of the racecourse poet :—

What though no Dinner Stakes now greet the sight,  
Nor Port, nor Claret, thirsty souls invite ?  
Can these alone a true-born Sportsman fire,  
These only fan an Englishman's desire ?

Though from henceforth the winner of a race was prohibited from making any such contributions out of his stake, the old custom still prevails at Chester that the first three horses in the Cup should each receive a Champion Cheshire Cheese of the value of £5, a gift as unique as it is acceptable.

It continues to be a condition of the Anglesey Stakes, run at the Curragh, that the winner shall give three dozen of champagne to the Club, this old established custom being still permitted by the Irish Turf Club.

**1873.** The Heath Tax was raised from two to four guineas this year, and the rule prohibiting two-year-olds from running before 1st May was rescinded for the future.

**1876.** The Committee of the Jockey Club appointed for that purpose issued an entirely new code of Rules to come into operation on the 1st of January, 1877, and ordered that all former rules be repealed on and from that day. They were no longer described by their original title, but as " Rules of Racing, made by the Jockey Club at Newmarket," and were divided into nine parts, containing fifty-six Rules.

A person detected " watching a trial " was still to be warned

off Newmarket Heath, and other places where these Rules were in force.

It was unanimously agreed that the Rules Committee should be asked to advise on the best mode of dealing with "the writers of Training Reports" in the newspapers, Prince Batthyany having presented to the Stewards the following petition, which had been numerously signed:—

"To the Stewards and Members of the Jockey Club. We, the undersigned owners and trainers of horses, approach the Stewards and Members of the Jockey Club under circumstances which we are convinced require their prompt intervention.

"We desire to call their attention to a system of recent creation, but avowedly recognised now by certain cheap sporting papers, and which system, if persisted in, will become intolerable.

"Some few years ago for the first time were published what are called 'Training Reports,' professing to give detailed information respecting the horses at the various training quarters in England, information, that is to say, as to their work, their health and condition, their capabilities, and their private trials for public races. This information is largely obtained from Servants, Boys, and even Apprentices, who attempted to violate their masters' secrets by an organised staff of paid Horse-watchers and Touts, who are, as we believe, maintained at the Chief Training establishments in the country, at the expense of those Papers.

"The result of their efforts is to corrupt and demoralise, and in many cases to cause the discharge and ruin of servants and boys in training stables, and a further result is the entire destruction of confidence between the employer and the employed. It is against this system, so dishonourable in practice, so injurious to owners and trainers, and so entirely subversive of the, morality and best interests of the Turf that we earnestly protest, and we trust that the Jockey Club will take such immediate steps as may be desirable to arrest its future progress."

In spite of this forcibly worded petition, which probably was at that day received most sympathetically by the authorities, it does not appear that action was taken, the Stewards doubtless recognising the futility of any attempt to control the Press, and that it was beyond their powers to dictate as to what information should be supplied by the newspapers.

**1877.** Admiral Rous, the great dictator of the Turf, having died this year, the Jockey Club proposed to mark their respect for his memory, and considered in what form a memorial to him should best be devised. Hence the institution of the Rous Memorial Fund, and races at Newmarket, Goodwood, and Ascot, which bear his name, and of which part of the proceeds are devoted to the purpose of the Fund.

A very salutary regulation in the interests of owners now came into force, when in accordance with the new Rules, it was required that all stakes should be paid by the Race Fund to the winners in full, without any deduction, within fifteen days of the race, and that any person making default for entries to be at once placed in the Forfeit List, and thereby debarred from further participation in the sport until he had discharged his liabilities.

Thus at one stroke it secured the winner being promptly paid the exact advertised amount of the race, and persons entering horses became in future debtors to the Race-fund, rather than to the owner of the winner, who was thus relieved of the necessity of making personal application to them for payment of the stakes due to him, as had formerly been the case.

The custom which had prevailed hitherto of owners themselves collecting the amounts due to them is well illustrated by the appended account for the Park Hill Stakes at Doncaster of 1841, kindly lent by Lord Bolton, which has never before been published, and is typical of a number of similar accounts which we have seen.

Honble. T. O. Powlett, for the Doncaster Meeting, 1841.

| Dr.                               | £  | s. | d. |
|-----------------------------------|----|----|----|
| Champagne (Stks), 1 ran .....     | 50 | 0  | 0  |
| St. Leger, 2 fts., declared ..... | 47 | 10 | 0  |
| Two-year-olds, 1 run .....        | 20 | 0  | 0  |
| Gascoigne, 1 ft., declared .....  | 28 | 10 | 0  |
| Park Hill, 1 run and 1 ft. ....   | 75 | 0  | 0  |
| Scarborough, 1 ft. declared ..... | 9  | 10 | 0  |
| Weighing fees .....               | 1  | 2  | 6  |

|                                                            |       |    |    |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-------|----|----|
| Keeper of the Match Book .....                             | 6     | 6  | 0  |
| Subscription to the Racing Club .....                      | 3     | 3  | 0  |
| Lord Westminster, for second in Park Hill .....            | 100   | 0  | 0  |
| Col. Crawford saves Stake in Do. ....                      | 50    | 0  | 0  |
| *Mr. Blades, on acct. 17th Sept. ....                      | 50    | 0  | 0  |
| Mr. Mann's stake wanting .....                             | 25    | 0  | 0  |
| Lord Milltown's Do. ....                                   | 25    | 0  | 0  |
| Lord Stanley's Do. ....                                    | 25    | 0  | 0  |
| Mr. Wauchope's Do. ....                                    | 25    | 0  | 0  |
|                                                            | <hr/> |    |    |
|                                                            | £541  | 1  | 6  |
| Balance by Check .....                                     | 341   | 8  | 6  |
|                                                            | <hr/> |    |    |
|                                                            | £882  | 10 | 0  |
| Cr.                                                        | £     | s. | d. |
| Cash by Mr. Blades.....                                    | 200   | 0  | 0  |
| Wins the                                                   |       |    |    |
| Park Hill Stakes (24 Subscribers) 4 runs at £50, 6 fts. at |       |    |    |
| £25, and 14 fts. at £23 15s. each .....                    | 682   | 10 | 0  |
|                                                            | <hr/> |    |    |
|                                                            | £882  | 10 | 0  |

Sir,—The enclosed Check will balance the above account, which on inspection hope will be found correct; have written to Lord Stanley at Knowsley, to Lord Milltown, near Kingsborough, Wicklow; to Mr. Wauchope, of Edwinston House, near Edinburgh, but received no answer; also to Mr. Mann, of Pigburn, near this town, and seen him personally since, he answers that he has no right to pay, having no interest in the filly, and that Mr. Tilburn entered her in his name without his consent—since which time of entering Mr. Tilburn has been a Bankrupt and is unable to pay anything—waiting for orders how to proceed in regard to Mr. Mann.—I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

(Signed) T. LOCKWOOD (Stakeholder).

4th October, 1841.

[\*NOTE.—Mr. Isaac Blades was Mr. Orde Powlett's trainer, who had apparently drawn £50 on account.]

It will be noticed that in this race four subscribers of twenty-five pounds each had not discharged their forfeits in fifteen days, and one of them evidently would never pay at all, consequently the actual value of a race to the winner, for the purposes of calculating penalties and allowances, might be considerably less than it purported to be in the *Calendar*.



This unsatisfactory state of affairs had been of very long standing in the annals of the Turf, no adequate method of dealing with defaulters having been evolved. Ten years earlier (1831) when the Marquis of Cleveland (better known as Lord Darlington) won the St. Leger with Chorister, his lordship had found himself under the necessity of sending the following letter on the subject to the *York Herald*, then the leading racing newspaper, as he considered it was not expedient that such persons as were in arrear with their forfeits should be permitted to continue to enter horses till their liabilities were duly discharged :—

1831, December 31st. Cleveland House, St. James', London,

Sir,—For the information of those who are connected with the Turf, I consider it necessary to state, through the channel of your valuable and extensively circulated paper, that I cannot obtain the arrears of the last Doncaster St. Leger Stakes due to me from Mr. Westgarth, Crook, near Kendal ; Mr. W. Gill, Hardwick, neat Pontefract ; Mr. F. Barrett, York ; and Mr. H. Edwards, Richmond.

I remain, Sir, Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) CLEVELAND.

**1878.** The purification of the Turf, and the best interests of the sport have ever been the jealous care of the Jockey Club, their efforts having been continuously directed against defaulters, and persons guilty of corrupt practices. This year, in furtherance of these objects, it was enacted for the first time, that so long as a person's name was in the forfeit list, he was debarred from entering in any race or having a horse under his care, training, or superintendence.

**1879.** It was now required that all Jockeys should be licensed, and that if any were proved to be the owner, or part owner, of race horses, "or in the habit of betting," his license might be withdrawn at the discretion of the Stewards.

The Clerk of the Scales was henceforth required to put 2 lb. extra into the scales when weighing-in, to prove that the

horse had not carried too much weight ; which enactment recalled the well-known case of Sir Joseph Hawley's Blue Gown, who was objected to on this score after winning the Champagne Stakes at Doncaster in 1867, and subsequently disqualified, though the actual amount of the excess weight he carried never transpired.

A Match perilously bordering on the grotesque was run on the last day of the July Meeting, at Newmarket, when Sir John Astley's Drumhead, 6 yrs., 16st. 6lb., beat Mr. C. Alexander's Briglia, 5 yrs., 16st., owners up, Suffolk Stakes Course ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles), £500, 100 ft. 11 to 8 on Briglia. Won by 3 lengths.

A further Match under similar conditions was run at the First October Meeting, when Mr. F. Gretton's Solomon (Mr. W. Bevill) beat Sir John Astley's Drumhead (Owner), both 6 yrs. old, 16st. 10lb. each. Last two miles of the Cesarewitch Course. £500, 100 ft. 5 to 4 on Solomon. Drumhead broke down, and Solomon came in alone. At the time these matches were run, Sir John Astley was fifty-one years of age.

It may be mentioned that Drumhead's last performance previous to this was running second for the Lewes Handicap, with Fordham up, and had earlier that year won the Ascot Plate (C. Wood), and with F. Archer riding, had been second in the Nottingham Spring Handicap.

**1880.** The Heath Tax was raised to five guineas. A Scale of Weight for Age was now published in the *Calendar* under the sanction of the Stewards. It was founded on that issued by Admiral Rous in 1873, and since modified in accordance with suggestions from the principal authorities.

The Astley Stakes of £1,627, at Lewes, not only resulted in a triple dead-heat between Scobell, Wandering Nun, and Mazurka, but two others, Cumberland and Thora, also dead-heated for second place in the same race, only a head separating them from the leading horses.

**1882.** At the Newmarket Houghton Meeting, the Cambridgeshire, won by Hackness, had to be postponed a day in consequence of a severe storm.

All partnerships, and the name of every person having any interest in a horse, had henceforth to be registered before it could start for any race.

**1883.** The Stewards of the Jockey Club now found it necessary to put some check on the great increase of race meetings throughout the country, being confronted with an ever-growing difficulty in allotting days for racing at such meetings as were already in existence. They consequently issued a notice this year that applications for licenses for additional race-courses would in future only be entertained under very exceptional circumstances, and in no case without a straight mile, and proper provision for races over a distance of ground.

It was also required that no bonus, or dividend, exceeding ten per cent. per annum should be paid to the shareholders of any new meeting, and that the accounts, and all financial arrangements, should be subject to inspection from time to time by any person whom the Stewards of the Jockey Club might appoint. Thus a limitation of "Places of Sport" has been practically reached, and in view of the ever increasing necessity for the strictest supervision, it is improbable that they will ever be permitted greatly to exceed the present number.

**1884.** In all ages of the Turf, there has been a cry of the degeneracy of the horse, and at this period the Jockey Club, chiefly at the instigation of Mr. Wilfred Blunt, was induced to provide a race solely for Oriental horses, who were thought by enthusiastic adherents of the breed to be calculated to once more regenerate our racehorses, a reversion to an experiment tried in 1771. The absurdity of the scheme scarcely required ocular demonstration, when from the obvious necessity of confining such races to the Arabians themselves, it

could only be to protect them from competition with the very breed of English horses that they were supposed to be able to improve.

The conditions of the race were as follows :—

An Arab Race, a sweepstakes of 25 sov. each, with 300 added (200 by the Jockey Club, and 100 by Mr. W. S. Blunt), for Arabian horses 3 yrs old, 7 st. 10lb., four, 9st., five and upwards, 9st. 3lb., 2 miles (15 subs.) 650*l*.

The race was won by Admiral Tryon's Asil, 3 years, considered to be the best Arab of his day, who ran in this country for three seasons.

Two similar races were also provided at Sandown Park for Oriental horses. The bubble, if there had ever been one, burst effectually when, at the Newmarket Second Spring Meeting the following year, this same Asil, in receipt of 4st 7lb., was beaten twenty lengths by Iambic, a very moderate horse of the Duke of Portland's, over the last three miles of the Beacon Course, proving the truth of Admiral Rous' assertion that Arabians could not win an important race against our modern horses if they only carried a saddle.<sup>1</sup>

It might, however, have been recollected that just twenty years earlier, a similar experiment had been made on the French turf, two races, of the respective distances of  $3\frac{3}{4}$  and  $1\frac{1}{4}$  miles, being provided at Pau for "horses of Arabian blood, or half-bred," it apparently being recognised at that date also that they would have held no chance against thoroughbred horses.

**1887.** Queen's (or King's) Plates, which in old days had played a very important part in the history of the Turf, and which had been in existence from the time of Charles II., were withdrawn in Great Britain from this year ; the sum hitherto granted by Her Majesty for this purpose being now diverted to Queen's Premiums, given to thoroughbred stallions at the London Show, held at Islington, for the purpose of improving the breed of half-bred horses throughout the country.

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1. page 216.

These races had of late consisted of a Plate of 500 sov. at Newmarket, and 300 sov. Plates at York, Richmond (Yorks), Liverpool, Lichfield, Bath, Stockbridge, Ascot, Lewes, and Winchester and Salisbury in alternate years. The Plates were only open for competition for Horses or Mares bred in Great Britain or Ireland, and no horse was allowed to win more than two of the Plates in any one year. Special weights for the Queen's (or King's) Plates had always appeared in the *Calendar*, and these races had from the first been subject to their own Rules and Regulations, as provided by the Master of the Horse, quite apart from the Rules of Racing current at any particular period.

As an example of the innate conservatism of all matters connected with the Turf, Rule iv., up to this last year (1887) read as follows :—

iv. Each horse's or mare's place, as he or she come by the ending-post, shall be determined by the Judge appointed by the Steward or Stewards of the Races at the place where the said Plate is run for, which was the language of the rule from the days of the institution of the races.

The Stewards intimated their intention of endeavouring to compensate for the loss of these Queen's Plates by providing races on somewhat similar conditions, and expressed a hope that the same would be done throughout the country at other race meetings.

This year the Heath Tax was raised from five to seven guineas, at which figure it has since remained.

"Colours worn by the Riders" were from henceforth required to be registered, and an annual fee paid.

**1889.** The enormous value of certain stakes run at this period may be here noted. In the year under notice, there were four races each of an approximate value of ten thousand pounds, all of which were won by the Duke of Portland, Ayrshire winning the Eclipse Stakes (£11,165 net) at Sandown, and the Royal Stakes (£9,500) at Kempton ;



and Donovan the Prince of Wales' Stakes (£11,000) at Leicester, and Lancashire Plate (£10,132) at Manchester (in addition to the Newmarket Stakes of £6,000, and Derby and St. Leger the same year).

The chief two-year-old races consisted of the Portland Stakes of £5,250, at Leicester, won by the flying Riviera; the Whitsuntide Plate of £3,400, at Manchester, won by Signorina, and the Kempton Park Great Breeders' Produce Stakes of £6,177, won by Dearest. This latter race yielded a surplus of £4,177, which was divided among the four placed horses.

The Eclipse Stakes had been instituted three years previously, the first race having been won by the six-year-old Bendigo, the favourite, it being his only start that season, and he went forthwith to the stud. The three other £10,000 races were shortly afterwards either dropped altogether, or decreased in amount, but in 1894, two other races of similar value took their place, viz., the Princess of Wales' and Jockey Club Stakes, both run at Newmarket, and both of which were won by Isinglass, who the same year was also successful in the Eclipse Stakes, thus bringing the aggregate of his three races for that season up to £31,498.

Isinglass (£57,450) and Donovan (£55,155) easily hold the record for value of stakes won, but as will be seen from the above figures, they were materially assisted by the extraordinary high stakes in vogue at their day.

In October of this year, an entirely new code of Rules was submitted by the Committee to the Jockey Club, consisting of no less than twenty-six parts, embracing one hundred and eighty-four rules, and further divided into sub-sections, to come into operation on the 1st January, 1890. These Rules, with certain modifications and amendments, are those in force at the present day, but still are continually being subjected to revision and addition.

A Summary to these Rules was at length provided, and greatly amplified the following year, when it was arranged

alphabetically, thus facilitating the task of finding any particular one. Hitherto such Rules as had been in force had never been indexed since their commencement in 1751.

Monday racing at Newmarket was agreed to be abolished for the future.

At the annual dinner of the Gimcrack Club held at York in December, 1887, Lord Durham, in the course of his speech, cast reflections on the conduct of Sir George Chetwynd, a brother member of the Jockey Club. The matter became a subject of litigation, and finally it was decided that it should be referred to arbitration. Owing to legal delays, the case did not come on till June, 1889, when, after a hearing lasting for twelve days, the Stewards, who themselves acted as arbitrators, gave their award, Sir George Chetwynd receiving nominal damages. The full shorthand notes of the trial are to be found among the records of the Jockey Club, and have also been published by the late Sir George Chetwynd in his *Racing Reminiscences*, besides other reports which appeared in the public press at the time. Sir George Chetwynd subsequently tendered his resignation to the Club, and it was accepted.

The List of Subscribers to the *Racing Calendar*, which had continuously been given from the first volume issued by Cheny in 1727, up to 1888, a period of over one hundred and sixty years, was omitted now, and for the future. In these lists the subscribers had invariably been divided into two sections, the nobility in order of precedence, followed by the remainder, arranged under their respective counties.

The omission may have been found necessary on the score of space, the *Calendar* now assuming very bulky proportions, but it forms a matter of regret that this interesting information should have been abandoned. In no other way is it possible to see who were the supporters of the national sport at any particular period, and it is pleasurable to observe how the love of racing has been hereditary in certain families.

**1890.** This year the Derby was run under altered conditions, the race being now of the guaranteed value of £5,000, instead of a Sweepstakes of £50, h. ft., as heretofore. The minor forfeit of 10 sov. (reduced two years later to 5 sov.) was instituted, by which means the number of subscribers increased from 169 to 233 ; other alterations were that the nominator of the winner henceforth received 500 sov., and the owner of the third £200, instead of £150. The actual value of the race to the winner was thus increased to £5,930, against £4,050 the previous season.

**1892.** At the Windsor June Meeting, a Cup value £200 was offered, with the unique condition that the horses should be the property of " Old Etonians." The race attracted twelve subscribers, but only two went to the post, Lord William Beresford's representative winning by two lengths from Sir John Thursby's, but the race was not continued after this year.

The highly respected jockey, John Osborne, relinquished riding this season, at the age of fifty-nine, having had his first mount so far back as 1846. During his career on the Turf he won the Derby on Pretender, the Oaks on Apology, the St. Leger on Lord Clifden and Apology, the Two Thousand Guineas six times, on Vedette, Pretender, Bothwell, Prince Charlie, Camballo, and Ayrshire respectively ; and the One Thousand Guineas on Manganese and Apology.

**1893.** The List of Foals, under their Sires, was discontinued in the *Racing Calendar* from this year.

**1894.** A return of the Sales of Bloodstock was first given in the *Calendar*. These had been recorded in *Ruff's Guide to the Turf* since 1868, and it singular that they should not have been included by Messrs. Weatherby at an earlier date. Apart from the interest of the subject to the followers of racing, it was desirable to have an official record, in view of certain races being confined to horses sold by

auction as yearlings, and it was expedient the *Calendar* should afford information of such sales.

**1896.** A material convenience, which would now be regarded as indispensable, in the form of page-to-page references, was this year first provided in the *Calendar*, it having been a feature of *Ruff's Guide* for the previous ten years.

**1897.** Badges were now ordered to be worn in the paddock at Newmarket, by lads in charge of horses, bearing numbers corresponding to those on the race card, in order to assist the public in identifying the runners without the necessity of questioning their attendants.

**1898.** The Stewards, with a view to improve the old-time system of starting by means of a flag, determined on a trial of the newly-invented Starting Gate, which had been used for some time with success in the Colonies, and the following notice was posted in reference to the Epsom Summer Meeting :—

There will be a Starting Gate Machine erected at the five-furlong starting post, to be used at the discretion of the Starter, for any five-furlong races in which unnecessary delay is caused at the post.

**1899.** The Starting Gate having given satisfaction, it was agreed that the Stewards of the Jockey Club be requested to arrange for all races confined to two-year-olds during the season of 1900 being started by a Starting Machine, subject to such regulations and safeguards as they may consider necessary. The Stewards having examined the starting machines that had been offered to them, selected the "Gray" Machine, and also approved of the "Johnstone and Gleeson," the "Kenny" and the "Caradini" Gates, for use on race-courses.

Paddock badges were henceforth made generally obligatory at all meetings.

**1900.** It was resolved that next year all races confined to two-year-olds, or three-year-olds, or both of these ages together, should be started by the Gate, but not for races to which older horses were admitted.

The Stewards having been asked the question if a gelding could be entered for the Epsom Derby, replied that the Club saw no objection to that course, and that they intended to reply in the affirmative, and two geldings ran this year.

Stallion Fees in future had to be registered, otherwise no allowance of weight could be claimed for the produce (bred in the United Kingdom) of a stallion covering at, or under, a particular fee.

Such allowances had been in operation for some little time, but had hitherto only applied to certain produce races, so that very few animals were affected by them, the "Untried horse allowance," usually some 3 or 4 lb., which had been in vogue from the latter half of the eighteenth century, being generally adopted in the conditions of such races up to this period.

This new Rule (126) exercised a most beneficial effect on breeding matters, as it furnished an inducement to stallion owners to rate their horses, and especially those just commencing stud life, at much lower fees than had obtained heretofore, thus putting them within the reach of many breeders who would not otherwise have been able to afford their services.

During the previous fifteen or twenty years, the lists of stallions contain many horses whose fees, in the light of their subsequent achievements at the stud, seem little short of exorbitant, a great many of those whose names are entirely forgotten at the present day being appraised at from 50 to 100 guineas, and frequently more, in direct opposition to the custom prevailing some half-century earlier, when the average fee of a Derby winner was about £15. Consequent on the passing of this new regulation, fees generally shewed an immediate downward tendency, some being forthwith reduced by £75 or £50, while horses already at a fee of £10 merely



required an abatement of sixpence, to comply with the strict letter of such conditions as provided a maximum allowance for the produce of stallions covering under ten sovereigns, and the now familiar fee of £9 19s. 6d. dates from this period.

It having been reported to the Stewards that Sloan had accepted a very large present from Mr. F. Gardner, in the event of his mount Codoman winning the Cambridgeshire, and that he had also betted on the race, they enquired into the case. Mr. Gardner, who pleaded ignorance of the regulation forbidding such presents, expressed his great regret, and was fined the nominal sum of £25. His commissioner was likewise fined the same sum, and finding both charges proved against Sloan, he was informed that he need not again apply for a licence to ride.

**1901.** It was now resolved that starting gates were to be in general use at every meeting, except in certain special cases, such as the Goodwood Cup, which is still started by flag.

“Some Cases Decided during the Year,” were first given in this *Calendar*, approaching somewhat to a return to the “Adjudged Cases” of the early volumes, for the guidance of local Stewards.

**1902.** This year the *Calendar* having been purchased by the Jockey Club, the title page of volume 130 bore a new inscription :

“Published for the Jockey Club, by E., C. T., J. H. and E. M. Weatherby.”

As a comparison between this year and a century back, it may be stated that in 1802, thirty-one two-year-olds ran ; in 1902, one thousand three hundred and fifty-one ran, but two years previously as many as one thousand five hundred and twenty-eight had started, shewing the progress of the sport, the runners of all ages now numbering nearly four thousand, instead of just over five hundred.

It was now agreed to confine the Two Thousand Guineas, the Derby, and Ascot Cup, to entire colts and fillies.

As a salutary measure, certain jockeys were warned off, refused a licence, or severely cautioned for offences, also for associating with persons of bad character.

**1903.** This year the old and original system of arranging the "Places of Sport" (which still retained their time-honoured name since 1727) under the counties was abandoned, and from now onwards they appear in alphabetical order. In the previous *Calendar*, there had been race meetings held in thirty-four English counties, also at nine different centres in Scotland, and fifty-one of greater or lesser magnitude in Ireland, also in Jersey and Guernsey, but none in Wales.

For some reason, in this and the following year (1903-4), no accounts of Irish racing were given in the *Calendar*. The object of this omission is not apparent, and is somewhat to be regretted, the more so as no rectification was afterwards possible, and is misleading when reference is made to certain horses' past performances, as they are, in consequence incomplete. For instance, the *Racing Calendar* of 1903 shews Mr. A. P. Cunliffe's Lord Rossmore to have only won the High-weight Stakes at Ascot that year, whereas *Ruff's Guide* correctly credits him with having also won the Irish Derby.

Moreover, it forms the only break, with the solitary exception of 1798, when hardly any races were run in Ireland (owing to the rebellion), of the continuity of the records of sport in that country since they were first recorded in the *Calendar* for 1741. Further, as the returns were resumed in 1905, the lack of them for these two years is liable to escape notice, and is probably not generally known; indeed, the only indication of the omission is an inconspicuous footnote following the "Places of Sport," and the alteration in title of the Index, from "Horses which ran in the United Kingdom," to "Great Britain," thus the change might well pass undis-

covered, more particularly as in the two years in question the Irish winners continued to be included in the List of Winning Horses under their Sires, which appears inexplicable, when the reports of Irish racing were omitted.

In consequence of certain notorious incidents, the Stewards found it necessary to pass the following Rule :

If any person shall administer, or cause to be administered, for the purpose of affecting the speed of a horse, drugs or stimulants internally, by hypodermic or other method,

he shall be warned off the Turf. Hitherto, as in the well-known case of Taraban, who was accustomed to be fortified by a bottle of John Scott's Port before going to the post, such ordinary stimulant had been considered allowable, but when certain noxious drugs were brought into use, it became necessary to prohibit all such practices, not only on account of their deleterious after effect on the constitution of the horse, but of the unfair advantage a doped animal had over other competitors.

A remarkable result attended the running of the Great Metropolitan Stakes at Epsom this year, the full two and a-half mile course being completed twice the same day, Wavelet's Pride each time coming in first. The course not having been properly marked, necessitated the race being run a second time, and the Clerk of the Course was fined fifty pounds for his default.

1904 A novel objection was lodged against a winner at the Newcastle Summer Meeting, on the ground of his “ having been run to deceive the handicapper,” previous to starting in this race. The Stewards, however, refused to entertain the complaint, and, as they did not consider it a valid objection, they imposed a fine of five sovs.

It was now found expedient to make some special regulations to avoid the repetition of names of famous horses, and the Stewards amended the existing Rule (65) as follows, the addition being in italics.

A name can ONLY be claimed for a horse by application at the Registry Office in London, with the description according to Rule, when, if there is no other horse of the same name, *and provided that the name claimed is not that of a celebrated horse or mare*, the name will be registered and published in the first *Sheet Calendar* after it had been claimed, and will, from the date of publication, be the horse's name under these Rules.

Notwithstanding this rule, it occasionally happens that a name is accepted during the lifetime of another horse who already bears it; and as recently as 1919, for example, Orpheus by Orby, and Bacton Lad by Bayardo, were running as two-year-olds, while Orpheus by Amphion, was covering in Ireland, and Bacton Lad by The Rush, was competing for a King's Premium at the Newmarket Show.

**1905.** This season saw the inauguration of the Newbury Meeting, which was held on September 26th, and extended over two days.

A reversion was this year made to a practice which had formerly obtained, of races being run over four furlongs, two-year-olds only being permitted to run over that distance, until the Epsom Summer Meeting. This Rule remained in force till 1913, it having been cancelled the previous summer on the representation of Lord Londonderry.

**1908.** The attention of the Stewards of the Jockey Club was directed to a practice followed by certain owners of stallions, of advertising their horses to cover at a fee lower than their merits apparently warranted, but at the same time reserving all the nominations for their own mares, or those of their personal friends, and not allotting them to the general public, the object being thus to obtain an unfair advantage in races subject to allowances for the stock of stallions covering under a certain fee. It was consequently announced that the Stewards were prepared to take action whenever they considered the spirit of Rule 126 had been thus set aside by any stallion owner.

**1910.** At the Birmingham Autumn Meeting, on the second day, three of the first four races resulted in dead heats.

**1912.** The horse Vigilance, on account of his savage propensities, was debarred by the Stewards from being entered for any further races; this being the first instance on record of a horse being "warned off" for his own misdemeanour, rather than that of his owner.

**1913.** The Stewards decided that "in the interests of "the English *Stud Book*, no horse or mare can be "admitted after this date, unless it can be traced without flaw "on both sire's, and dam's, side of its pedigree, to a strain "already accepted in the earlier volumes of the book."

By a rule passed the previous year, it was now enacted that "no horse three years old or upwards shall run un-named." The Irish Turf Club, however, did not adopt this salutary rule till seven years later, but then improved on it, by decreeing on May 19th, 1920, that "a horse shall not be qualified to run "until a name has been registered therefor."

The race for the Derby this year had a most unsatisfactory result, as the Stewards objected to, and disqualified, Craganour, who came in first, on the ground that he had jostled the second horse, Aboyeur, to whom the race was awarded. Further, His Majesty's Anmer was thrown down in the same race by a female fanatic, who had attempted to stop the horse at Tattenham Corner, and was herself killed.

A similar incident happened at the following Ascot Meeting, when a madman interfered with the second favourite, Tracery, in the Gold Cup, bringing the horse down, and himself suffering severe injuries.

**1914.** The continuation of racing during the European War became the subject of considerable discussion, and was sanctioned, where circumstances permitted, for reasons which were fully set forth by the Jockey Club.



The Stewards gave notice of their intention to examine horses in order to ascertain whether, or no, they had been doped, when and where they pleased, in order to satisfy themselves that their regulations on this matter were not being disregarded.

**1915.** In view of the continuance of the War, a special meeting of the Jockey Club was held in March to discuss the question of further racing, and it was ultimately agreed that "racing should be carried on, where the local conditions permit, and the feeling of the locality is not averse to the Meeting being held." On the 20th May, however, in consequence of representations made by the Government, the Stewards issued a notice that all the fixtures granted, including those of the following Monday, May 24th, must be abandoned, save those at Newmarket only.

Consequently this season, and for the three years following, owing to the continued impracticability of holding the Epsom and Doncaster Meetings during the Great War, and the necessary abandonment of the Derby, Oaks, and St. Leger, substitutes for these races were provided at Newmarket, restricted, as regards the two former, to horses which had been entered in the original races. These events were described as the New Derby, the New Oaks, and the September Stakes, and rank officially as classic races.

It is, however, to be regretted that they, and more especially the last named, could not have retained their proper titles, with the addition of the prefix "War," as posterity will not readily identify a horse who won the September Stakes as a St. Leger winner, though he certainly is included in the list of such winners in the table furnished in the *Racing Calendar*.

As Newmarket, Liverpool, Derby, and Stockton always have a "St. Leger" of their own, the title is by no means peculiar to Doncaster, and it is not apparent why the Doncaster Race Committee should have objected to the time-honoured name of their race being used during its temporary transference to Newmarket.

As a result of racing being thus restricted to one centre, in certain cases the enormous number of entries necessitated races being run in two divisions. At first this arrangement applied only to handicaps, and was not extended to two-year-old races till the following year. In the meantime a Maiden Plate, run at the Newmarket First Extra Meeting, 1915, brought no fewer than forty-three two-year-olds to the post, the seven races on this day being contested by two hundred and fifteen horses, an average of over thirty for each race.

This system of dividing races was not an entirely new departure, as during the middle of last century it was customary, in the event of thirty subscribing to the Wokingham Stakes at Ascot, to run the race in two classes, and if this number was materially exceeded, an extra class was added, all three races being run the same day, and sometimes consecutively.

**1916.** The Jockey Club having approached the Government with a view to ascertaining whether they would favourably consider the granting of additional facilities for racing, under Jockey Club Rules only, during the coming season, received a reply that in the interests of horse-breeding, and those dependent on it, no objection would be raised to the holding of a limited number of meetings at Gatwick, Lingfield, Newbury, and Windsor, in addition to Newmarket, so long as the exigencies of the war permitted.

A petition in favour of the Pari-Mutuel system of betting being permitted was considered by the Club, but it was suggested that the question should be deferred for the present, without prejudice to a discussion on the merits of the proposal, if the signatories thought fit to bring it forward again at a later date.

Colonel Hall Walker, now Lord Wavertree, having presented his large and valuable stud to the nation, and made over his famous breeding and racing establishments of Tully and Russley, to form a National Stud, the Stewards of the Jockey Club gave notice that they were prepared to recognise, for

the purposes of the Rules of Racing, leases and entries signed by the official Director, such entries to be in the name of the National Stud, and therefore not liable to become void on the death of the actual nominator.

**1917.** The Stewards were informed by the Government that owing to the continuance of the war, it had become necessary in the national interest, to prohibit the holding of all race meetings in the United Kingdom after the week ending 5th May. On the strong representations made by the Stewards, in the following July this order was so far modified that the Government permitted forty days' racing, to be held at Newmarket, Brighton, Manchester, Stockton, and Windsor.

**1918.** Racing took place on fifty-three days in Great Britain this year, having been held on only forty-nine the previous season.

**1919.** The Rule passed in 1916 that entries made in the name of the National Stud were not liable to become void on the death of the actual nominator, *i.e.*, the official Director, was now amended, as it was considered that it gave the National Stud an advantage over private owners ; consequently it was settled by the Jockey Club that for the future :

In the case of the National Stud nominations, subscriptions and entries shall be made in the name of the Director of the National Stud for the time being, as if he were the owner, and such nominations, subscriptions, and entries, shall become void on the death of the Director in whose name they were made.

Further, the whole question of nominations underwent revision this year, with the object of lessening the hardship occasioned to owners by the death of the original nominator of their horses, and it now became obligatory to transfer engagements when yearlings, foals, or brood-mares with engagements in produce races, have been bought or leased, by lodging a formal transfer at the Registry Office within twenty-eight days of sale.

By a more recent amendment, however, passed during the following year, transfers are no longer enforced, but are left to the option of purchasers.

**1920.** A remarkable series of frauds came to light this year, when it was discovered that the horse who, under the name of Coat of Mail, had won the Faceby Plate, for two-year-olds, at Stockton, the previous autumn, was in reality a three-year-old colt, named Jazz.

According to the *Stud Book*, General Baird had bred in 1917 a bay colt, named Coat of Mail, by Roquelaure out of Queen of the Dell, and it was as such that the winner of the Faceby Plate was described. It would appear that the real Coat of Mail never ran, and the race in question is the only reference to the counterfeit one in the Index to the *Racing Calendar* for 1919.

Under his correct name of Jazz, and as the property of his breeder, Sir Hedworth Meux, this horse had, however, started in six races that season, the last one being a handicap at the Newmarket Second October Meeting, held only eight days previous to the Stockton race. In the Faceby Plate "Coat of Mail" won by three lengths from seven two-year-olds, and started at 5 to 2, which suggests that his connections had little fear of his being beaten. This was the colt's last appearance under Jockey Club Rules, but within seven weeks, he reverted to his own name of Jazz, taking part in a hurdle race at the Plumpton Meeting, and continued to run throughout the jumping season, but without success until April 5th, when he won a Novices' Hurdle Race at Cardiff.

Meanwhile, at the Cheltenham Meeting, in December, 1919, a mare described as Mr. C. S. Lawley's Silver Badge, aged, and purporting to have been bought out of the Army, had won a Selling Hurdle race, and it was not until some nine months later that the discovery was made that she was a well-known performer, a winner both before and subsequently, under her true name of Shining More.

Encouraged by their immunity from detection, the same confederacy, though in the name of another partner, ran a three-year-old colt in the Wynn Two-years-old Selling Plate, at Chester, in May, 1920, describing him as "Golden Plate, "2 years, by Prospector, out of Lady Maev," a wholly fictitious pedigree, the horse being in reality, Homs, 3 years, by Lonawand, out of Tangent, who had not previously started for any race.

The frauds being at length discovered, the Jockey Club instituted proceedings in the Central Criminal Court, against the several persons implicated, who were sentenced to varying terms of imprisonment, and which embraced others than those in whose names the horses had actually run. The result of the Stewards' investigations were duly published in the Sheet Calendar, six persons being warned off the Turf, and the horses Jazz, Homs, and Shining More, perpetually disqualified.

It is singular that the official report in the *Calendar* never stated that Homs was identical with the horse who ran under the name of Golden Plate, at Chester, and though it was well-known some two months before the *Calendar* was published that no such horse existed, yet his name stands in the return of the race, and is duly recorded in the index, no information being at any time afforded that the entry referred to a purely imaginary animal.

The wisdom of permitting owners to run horses under assumed names had long been an open question. So far back as 1838, a well-known writer in an open letter to the Stewards of the Jockey Club, alluded to the matter in the following terms :—

My Lords,—It will not very probably have reached you, how universal is the call for some enactment which shall come at the root of a great evil—viz., that of horses being permitted to race in other names than those of their *bona fide* proprietors. The common belief at this moment is that the practice has lately been carried on to a great extent, and deeply to the public prejudice.

It was not until 1860, however, that any Rule was passed



dealing with this matter, for the comprehensive new code which came into force in 1858, left the former clause as to "fictitious names" unaltered, it merely requiring that persons entering horses under such names should be held liable for the entry fees. In the *Calendar* for that year, however, it was announced that an annual fee of £1 should be paid for the privilege of registering an assumed name, "which shall be carried to the credit of the Bentinck Benevolent Fund."

In 1870 the Rule was considerably amplified, and though the fee remained the same, a penalty of £10 was imposed on any change of an assumed name.

Three years later, several alterations were made in the Rule, the yearly fee being raised to 10 guineas, while "if the person registering is a Member of the Jockey Club, the fee is 50 guineas."

Further amendments were made after another three years (1876), the Rule now containing six sub-sections, and the fee being increased to 25 gs., but the £10 penalty was dropped, though the full fee for re-registration would of course be payable on any change of name.

In 1889, the charge was again raised, now being £30, and remained at that sum until 1920, when assumed names were no longer permitted, any horse so entered to be disqualified.

**1923.** This year the Jockey Club instituted an insurance scheme for the benefit of such Jockeys and Apprentices as might be killed or injured when following their profession. It was accordingly ordered that at all Race Meetings held in Great Britain, the owner of every horse running should pay the sum of one shilling, and that a further sum of one shilling should be deducted from the fee paid to the jockey, by way of contributions to the fund. In the case of death, or permanent injury, resulting from an accident while riding a race, a maximum sum of £2,000 was henceforth payable to a jockey or his dependents, as also weekly allowances in cases

of temporary disablement. The fund to be administered by the Jockey Club at their discretion.

Hitherto such compassionate payments and allowances had been left to a charitable public, and a great advance was made when such reliefs were put on a regular basis, and a proper provision assured for both jockeys and those dependent on them.

Mr. C. E. Robinson, who had served the Jockey Club in the capacity of Judge for over forty years, with singular ability, and distinction, now resigned his office, finding his health forbade him continuing his duties.

A new Rule was passed, in the best interest of racing, whereby any owner of horses offering to give information about his own, or other, horses, for monetary consideration, was liable to be declared a disqualified person.

**1924.** Lord Jersey, Senior Steward of the Jockey Club, died in December this year "in the prime of life "and mental activity." A direct descendant of the two Dukes of Buckingham (Villiers), father and son, who had done so much to improve our breed of horses in the seventeenth century, the love of the turf was with him a hereditary possession.

Lord Jersey had filled a very prominent place in the councils of the Jockey Club, and had been chiefly responsible for the conduct of racing during the difficult and critical times of the Great War. It was generally considered that by his death the Club had suffered a grievous blow, and Lord Durham, in an eloquent speech, testified to the feelings of his brother members of the Club, who deplored the loss of "an admirable "Steward."

## Various Racing Calendars.

SEVERAL other Calendars have been issued from time to time, which require notice, and no less than four of them were published in York alone, at different periods, it being the hub of the Turf universe in the early days of regular racing.

It was noticed when dealing with Cheny's *Calendar*, which began in 1727, that he made no attempt to be retrospective, and so far as he was concerned, racing might only have commenced in the above year, as he made no allusion to the past. In 1748, however, one J. Jackson, who lived in Peter-gate, York, and appears to have carried on the business of a printer, together with that of a Chemist, and Law Stationer, published the first volume of a *Calendar*, solely confined to races at York and Hambleton, bringing the accounts back to 1709, having collected such returns as were available, and preserved them in manuscript.

Six later editions followed at irregular intervals, each containing the records from 1709 to the date of issue, the last of which was said to be in 1783. These little books, which enjoyed considerable popularity, are now very scarce, neither the British Museum, the Bodleian at Oxford, or the York Public Library, having a copy.

The two volumes in our own possession are the first edition of 1748, and the sixth of 1771. The title page is as follows :—

AN  
 Historical LIST  
 of all  
 The Plates and Prizes Run for  
 on *Clifton* and *Rawcliffe-Ings*,  
 also,  
 Since they have been removed to  
*Knavesmire*, near the City of YORK,  
 likewise,  
 How the MARES came in, every  
 Year at BLACK HAMBLETON,  
 Containing  
 the Names of the Owners of the HORSES that have  
 Run, and the Names and Colours of the said HORSES also.  
 WITH  
 The Winner distinguished of every PLATE, PRIZE, or  
 STAKES: The Conditions of Running as to Weight, Age,  
 Size, &c., and the Places in which the losing Horses have  
 come in.

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YORK: Printed and Sold by J. Jackson in the *Peter gate*, 1748.

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It will be observed that the book only treated of races run at York, and not elsewhere in the county, with the single exception of His Majesty's Plate of 100 guineas at Hambleton, confined to five year old mares, carrying 10 st., over two miles; then considered a most important event. It appeared that the Judges thought it incumbent on them to place all the runners for this race, if possible (in 1724 they actually placed the first twenty-six); and in cases where they failed to do so, they always apologised for their default by recording "the rest came in such Disorders that the Tryers could give no account of," hence the expression on the title-page, "How the Mares came in every year at Black Hambleton."

The book doubtless came to an abrupt end on the death of the compiler in about 1783, and the records of York races

were henceforth continued by William Pick, who published the first volume of his *Calendar* in 1786, bringing the accounts up to that date, and after his decease were carried on by Richard Johnson.

The little book has been extremely useful to Turf historians generally, and of York in particular, for after the fashion of the day, to which one has had frequently to advert, Pick availed himself of its entire contents, from the commencement in 1709, just as they stood, and John Orton subsequently followed suit by copying the whole of both books into his *Turf Annals*, merely modernising any expressions in the text that he considered old-fashioned, and combining them with his own copious additions.

Orton's work we shall refer to presently, and being of a much later date, is more familiar to the general reader, so he thus gets rather more credit for his researches than is really due to him, having appropriated so liberally the labours of his predecessors.

Jackson, when collecting materials for his history of York races, evidently had access to Tennant's account of those held in 1709 and the following year, which have been reproduced in full on pages 89 to 92, but afterwards had to depend on other sources of information, as it appears there were no printed returns for the next five or six years.

From his particulars we learn that the meeting held at York in 1714 was a very eventful one, and lasted six days. The race for Her Majesty's Gold Cup of 100 guineas resulted in a dead-heat, Mr. Childers' Duchess, and Mr. Peirson's Foxhunter coming in so close for the final heat, that "the Tryers" could not determine which had won, and both claimed the stakes.

An action at law followed, pending which the Gold Cup was invested in trust with the Lord Mayor of York. It was subsequently settled by the Court, much on the principle of the race in "Alice in Wonderland," that all had won, or, in other words, all such horses as had not been "distanced" had an equal property in the Cup. Accordingly the four



owners who were entitled to the prize under this judgment sold their shares for £25 each, and they were purchased by the Duke of Rutland (two shares), Lord Carlisle (one), and Sir William Lowther (one), who arranged a race between themselves to decide which of them should take the Cup, but it appears that as the litigation in this case was very protracted, it was not run for till five years afterwards, 1719, when Lord Carlisle's historical Chestnut Gelding won, and a few days later the same horse carried off the Gold Cup of that year which His Majesty annually gave at York.

On July 30th, 1714, two days after the original dispute, Queen Anne's bay horse Star won the £40 Plate, but during the races on the following Monday, an Express arrived with the news of Her Majesty's death, "upon which most of the Nobility and Gentry left the Field, and attended the Lord Mayor and Archbishop *Dawes*, who proclaimed his Majesty King *George I.*, and then most of the Nobility took Post for *London.*" In this year "there was such a Concourse of Nobility and Gentry that 156 Coaches were counted one Day upon the Field."

In 1717 Mr. Pelham's famous Brocklesby Betty won the Gold Cup at the same Meeting, which Cup is still in the possession of Lord Yarborough at Brocklesby Park.

In 1718 it is noted that Crutches started a very hot favourite for the Plate, but his jockey, Thomas Duck, finding his horse winning, in spite of all his efforts to stop him, with courage worthy of a better cause, threw himself off when leading at the distance post, but no mention is made of any punishment being inflicted on him, and as names of jockeys were not then stated in the returns, it is not even known if he was suspended from riding.

After 1730, the races were no longer held on Clifton and Rawcliffe Ings, owing to the course being frequently under water, and were transferred to Knavesmire, where they have been held ever since.

Pick, who carried on the records from 1786, was at that

time responsible for the racing articles in the *York Herald*, then the leading Turf newspaper of the North of England, and his *Calendar* was on far more ambitious lines than its modest little predecessor. His title page, a portion of which is here quoted, gives a good idea of the scope of his work, and shews that in addition to a return of Yorkshire races, he had provided a very valuable history of the "Pedigrees and Performances of the most celebrated Racehorses that have appeared upon the English Turf since the time of Basto, Flying Childers, etc., with an historical account of the most favourite Arabians, Turks, Barbs, English Stallions and Brood-mares, alphabetically digested, the whole calculated for the Use and Entertainment of Sportsmen, Breeders, and Lovers of that Noble Animal."

The account of the "Fox Chases," mentioned on the title page, affords very entertaining reading, and we find Colonel Thornton receiving a Piece of Plate from Sir Harry Featherstone and Sir John Ramsden, Baronets, as "a compromise to a bet made in honour of a Hambleton Fox." It appears that the Colonel had originally engaged for a bet of three hundred guineas, play or pay, to find a fox at Hunt's Whin, which should run twenty miles; and five of those present on the appointed day signed a certificate stating that the fox broke in full view, and was killed after a continued burst (there not being one check) of two hours and thirty-eight minutes, and that they, being the only gentlemen up at the death, "do believe the said Fox ran at least twenty-eight miles."

"N.B.—There were only eight horsemen out of seventy up."

Sir Charles Turner's great day when "the noted old Fox Cæsar" beat them after running some fifty miles, apparently all round the north of Yorkshire and Durham, comes in for due mention, Sir Charles "tired three horses, and had only three hounds in the pursuit, when he thought proper to call them off," and from another source we learn that the only other of the field left when Cæsar ran the hounds out of scent was "Robert Colling, Esqre., of Hurworth," he being the

great-grand-father of the popular trainer of the same name, now living at Newmarket, and as devoted to hunting as his sporting ancestor.

Another desperate chase is recorded, and vouched for by fourteen signatures, when

“hounds found at 27 minutes past nine on the 19th of March, 1783, and except the space of near half an hour, taken in bolting the Fox from a rabbit-hole, had a continued run until five o'clock, when we had an *entopé*: and after repeated views, we killed him at 14 minutes past five by the different watches.

It was supposed that a greater number of horses died in the field, than was ever known on a like occasion,”

thus, from the point of view of the reporter, setting a seal on the day.

Many such quaint anecdotes will be found throughout *Pick's* work, and in recording the Match for two thousand guineas, run in 1759, when Lord Rockingham's Whistlejacket beat Mr. Turner's Brutus, 9 st. each, 4 miles, he thus describes the race:—

This was an exceedingly fine heat, being strongly contested the whole four miles, and won by a length only. Whistlejacket was rode by John Singleton, and Brutus by Thomas Jackson, who both shewed great skill in horsemanship, and so jealous were they of each other gaining advantage at starting, that they called one another back several times.

In 1766 in the Great Subscription race at York, *Pick* tells us:—

a blood vessel burst in King Herod's head when running the last mile, and he was taken dangerously ill, which prevented his coming in a better place.

The first Gold Cup at Beverley, run for in 1770, was won by Liberty, which horse:—

was first bought for £7, was afterwards sold to Mr. Snowdon, of Huntington, near York, for £9, and Mr. Snowdon sold him to Mr. Fenton, before starting for the above, for 10 gs. in hand, 10 gs. more if he won, and £20 a year for life.

*Pick*, in very many cases, both mentions the name of the

jockeys, and the distance by which the races were won, and in these particulars was half-a-century ahead of the *Racing Calendar* proper. Thus when Eclipse won the Great Subscription at York in 1770, he tells us :—

Eclipse took the lead at starting, and when at the 2-mile post, was above a distance before the other two, and won with uncommon ease.

This first volume of Pick (1786) is now extremely scarce, and contains much information which was omitted from his later book, the one usually quoted from, which was issued in two volumes, the first being published in 1803, and the second in 1805, bringing the pedigrees and racing careers of the horses, down to 1772 inclusive, and was styled *The Turf Register, and Breeders' Stud Book*. The annual return of Races Past was omitted, being now a separate work. A third volume was announced, it being his intention thereby to bring the history of the racehorse up to date, but it was not completed at the untimely death of Pick in February, 1816, at the age of fifty-seven.

Subsequently Richard Johnson, of York, who continued Pick's *Calendar*, undertook to carry on his *Register* also, but so leisurely did he proceed, that the promised third volume was not published till 1822, and the fourth till 1867, and even so, only brought the records down to 1792. Johnson, while apologising for the delay, gave public notice of continuing the accounts, but at the pace at which they were produced, it is easy to understand that death overtook him before another was issued, and the *Turf Register* thus came to an end, no one having come forward to carry on the work.

Taunton attempted a somewhat similar compilation, in four volumes, in 1888, which he stated in his preface took him twenty years to compile, but though he embellished his work with pictures of the most celebrated racehorses, from the earliest times up to about 1870, which are decidedly interesting, his letterpress has always appeared to be singularly disappointing, and one thinks that a far greater measure of success might have been achieved, as opportunities for

information had so enormously increased since the days of the early Turf historians.

In Johnson's hands, an excellent yearly *Racing Calendar* was produced, which in general appearance, and size, exactly imitated Weatherby's, and there was little to distinguish them, inside or out, except the author's name. Previous to the introduction of the penny post, there had been a need for such a *Calendar* published in the North of England, which would be available some days before the *Racing Calendar* proper could be delivered, and Johnson adequately supplied this want.

This *Calendar* was first published in 1821, followed in April, 1825, by a sheet calendar, which was issued fortnightly to the subscribers, the annual cost of the two publications being twenty-four shillings and a guinea respectively. In one material respect, Johnson's *Calendar* was in advance of the official one, as he gave descriptions of the actual races, and the distances by which they were won. This work came to an end in 1868, on the death of the compiler; moreover, the changed circumstances of post and telegraph rendered its continuance unnecessary, as Mr. Weatherby's *Calendar* now amply supplied all demands.

The last Yorkshire Calendar to come under notice is the *Turf Annals of York and Doncaster*, by John Orton, published in 1844, shortly before his death, which occurred on the 19th May the following year.

As before mentioned, Orton incorporated the earlier *Calendars* from 1709 with his own, bringing them up to the end of 1843, with considerable additions. Amongst his many items of miscellaneous information, he records that on the second day of York Races, 1760 :—

the famous Mr. Johnson rode one mile standing upright on horse-back for one hundred guineas. He was allowed three minutes to ride it in, but performed it in two minutes, forty-two seconds.

Not being an actual "race," this feat is not alluded to in the other *Calendars* of the time, and it has puzzled later writers



to discover the identity of this acrobat, and hitherto, as far as we know, no one has succeeded in establishing it. We are able, however, to determine this point, for on reference to Boswell's *Life of Dr. Johnson*, under date June 13th, 1763, this passage will be found, shewing that the man who rode at York was a celebrated circus-rider of the day, and by a coincidence a namesake of the great lexicographer. Boswell states :—

I told him [Dr. Johnson] I had been to see Johnson ride upon three horses. He said, " Such a man, Sir, should be encouraged ; for his performances shew the extent of the human powers in one instance, and thus tend to raise our opinion of the faculties of man. He shews what may be attained by persevering application, so that every man may hope, that by giving as much application, although perhaps he may never ride three horses at a time, or dance upon a wire, yet he may be equally expert in whatever profession he has chosen to pursue.

A singular incident happened at this meeting. Mr. Meadley's bay horse Laurel, by Cade, had arrived at York to run for the Great Subscription Plate, but previous to the races, Sir William St. Quintin's Prince Ferdinand, by the Cullen Arabian, who stood in the same stable, broke loose and killed Laurel.

Orton officiated as Judge at many North Country meetings, and for a number of years contributed racing articles to the *Sporting Magazine*. His biographies of old-time jockeys afford very interesting reading, and are not the least valuable feature of his *Annals*.

From the fact of Orton occupying the Judge's box, it was his custom to state by what distance each race was won, from very early in the century, and also usually to give the name of the jockeys, which information was not supplied by the official *Racing Calendar* for any year previous to 1823, when the winning jockey was given, the names of the remainder not being afforded until 1845, and then only at the principal meetings.



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